Alice
IN THE COUNTRY OF
Clover
MARCH HARE
STORY: QuinRose
ART: Soyogo Iwaki

TORN BETWEEN TWO BUNNIES!

When Alice came to the Country of Clover, she swore she didn't want to fall in love. But Elliot March, the rabbit-eared second-in-command at Hatter Mansion, has other plans. He's enthusiastic, affectionate, and disarmingly honest—but he's also a vicious killer and a mafia thug. And that's not even getting into his scary obsession with carrots...

On the other side, there's the jealous Peter White, the white rabbit who brought Alice to Wonderland in the first place. As Prime Minister of the rival territory of Heart Castle, he's not without his charms. Alice finds herself forced to make a choice once and for all.

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YOU'RE REALLY SUCH A NICE PERSON, ALICE!
THAT'S NOT TRUE...
SURE IT IS!
YOU'RE KIND AND THOUGHTFUL, AND YOU'RE SO LITTLE AND CUTE!
YOU JUST SAY THAT BECAUSE YOU'RE SO BIG...
REALLY! I'VE NEVER MET A WOMAN BETTER THAN YOU!
I THINK YOU'RE SEEING WHAT YOU WANT NOT WHAT'S REALLY THERE.
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I TELL IT LIKE I SEE IT!
FLATTERY WILL GET YOU NOWHERE.
I'M NOT TRYING TO FLATTER YOU!

.....
LOVE, HUH...?
WOW, YOU'RE REALLY THICK.
WHAT AN IDIOT...
THAT'S RIGHT! LISTEN TO BLOOD!
TO ME LOVE IS...
WANDERING IN PITCH DARKNESS
STRUGGLING TO FIND A GLIMPSE OF LIGHT
THAT'S THE IMAGE I HAVE OF LOVE.

WELL...
WHAT ELLIOT IS SAYING AND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING YOUNG LADY
BOTH HOLD SOME TRUTH.
WHY AREN'T I GETTING THROUGH?
BLOOD! A LITTLE HELP HERE!
HM...
BESIDES... ELLIOT ISN'T QUICK ENOUGH TO FLATTER HIS WAY INTO A WOMAN'S HEART
.....
LOVE, AFTER ALL, IS A KIND OF ILLUSION
IN ELLIOT'S EYES, EVERY PART OF YOU IS DAZZLING.
FOR HIM, THAT IS AN UNQUESTIONED TRUTH
ELLIOT VISION.

ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER
~March Hare~

SOYOGO IWAKI
岩城 そよご

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Alice IN THE COUNTRY OF Clover

MARCH HARE

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ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER: MARCH HARE
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!

Alice in the Country of Clover
Character Information

Elliot March
VA: Kisugen Nugami

Blood's right-hand man has a criminal past—and a temperamental present. But he's not as bad as he used to be, so that's something. Joining Blood has been good(?) for him.

Blood Dupre
VA: Kitsuyuki Kouishi

The head of the mafia Hatter Family. Blood is a cunning yet moody puppetmaster. Alice now has the pleasure of having him for a landlord.

Alice Liddell
VA: Aie Kugimiya

A normal girl with a bit of a chip on her shoulder. Deciding to stay in the Wonderland she was carried to, she's adapted to her strange new lifestyle.

Vivaldi
VA: Yuuki Kaji

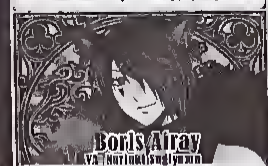
The beautiful Queen of Hearts has an unrivaled temper—which is really saying something in Wonderland. Although a picture perfect Mad Queen, she cares for Alice as if Alice were her little sister—or a very interesting plaything.

Tweedle Dum
VA: Jouji Fukuyama

The second "Bloody Twin" is equally cute and equally scary. In *Clover* Dum can also turn into an adult.

Tweedle Dee
VA: Jouji Fukuyama

One of the "Bloody Twin" gatekeepers of the Hatter territory. Dee can be cute when he's not being terrifying. In *Clover* he sometimes turns into an adult.



Boris Airay
VA: Tsurinoi Sugiyama

This middle-loving cat has a signature smirk—and in *Clover* a new toy. One of his favorite pastimes is giving the Sleepy Mouse a hard time.

Ace
VA: Daisuke Hirakawa

The unlucky knight of Hearts was a former subordinate of Vivaldi and is perpetually lost. Even though he's depressed to be separated from his friend and boss Julius, he stays positive and tries to welcome Alice with a smile. He seems like a classic nice guy... or is he?

Peter White
VA: Kouki Miyata

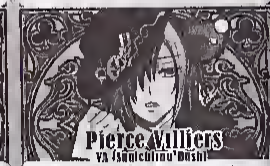
The Prime Minister of Heart Castle—who has rabbit ears growing out of his head—invited (kidnapped) Alice to Wonderland. He loves Alice and hates everything else. His cruel, irrational actions are disturbing, but he acts like a completely different person (rabbit?) when in the throes of his love for Alice.

Gray Ringmarc
VA: Tsuyoshi Sakaguchi

Nightmare's subordinate in *Clover*. He used to have strong social confusion and considered it a fascinating Nightmare—but since Nightmare was such a useless boss, Gray couldn't help but feel sorry for him and ended up a dedicated assistant. He's a sound thinker with a strong work ethic. He's also highly skilled with his blades, rivaling even Ace.

Nightmare Gottschalk
VA: Tomokazu Sugita

A sickly nightmare who hates the hospital and needles. He has the power to read people's thoughts and enter dreams. Even though he's weak, he shows off away endreams. Gray drags him out to sulk from time to time. He technically holds a high position and has many subordinates, but since he can't even take care of himself, he leaves most things to Gray.



Pierce Villiers
VA: Kenichiro Ueshi

Now to *Clover*. Pierce is an insomniac mouse who drinks too much coffee. He loves Nightmare (who can help him sleep) and hates Peter (who bothers him). He dislikes Blood and Vivaldi for discarding coffee in favor of tea. He likes Elliot and Peter well enough, since rabbits are their natural predators of mice.

- STORY -

In *Alice in the Country of Clover*, the game starts with Alice having not fallen in love, but still deciding to stay in Wonderland.

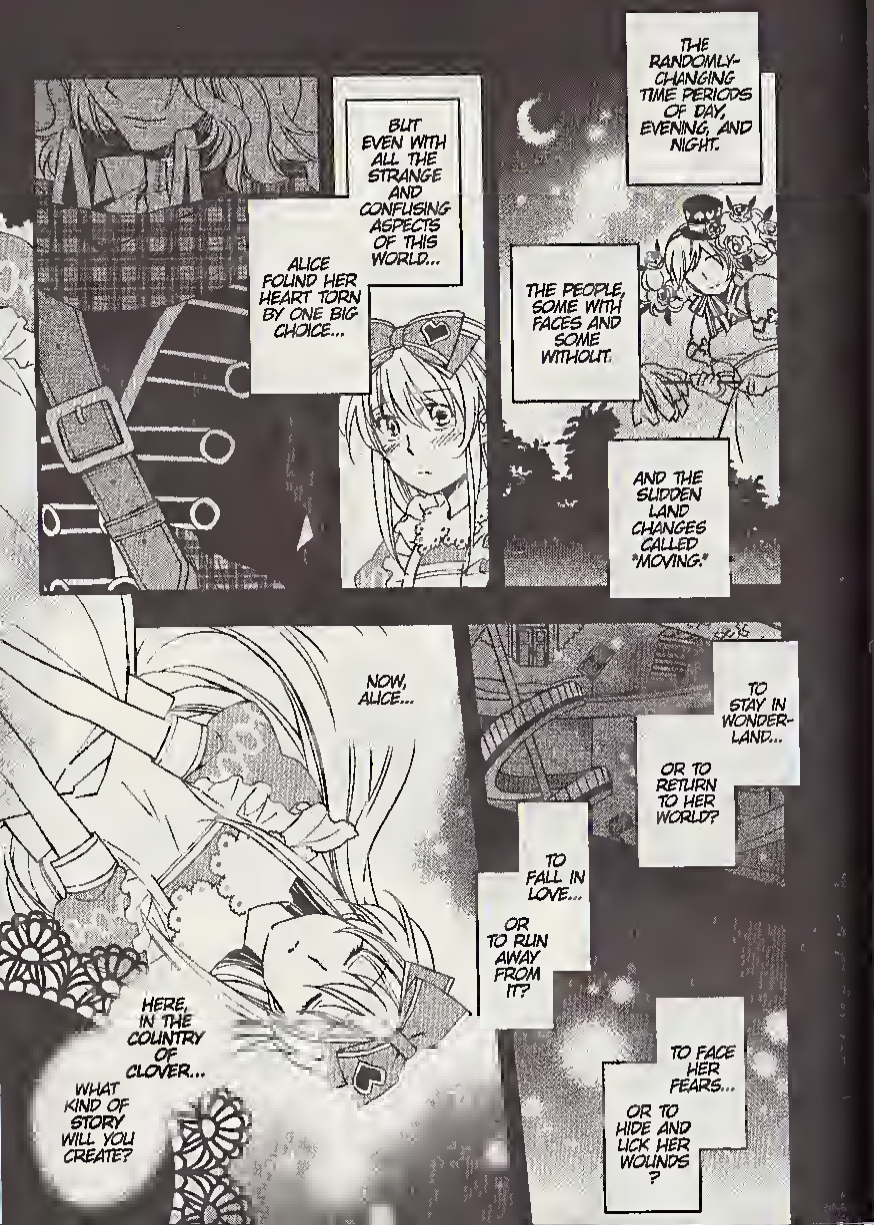
She's acquainted with all the characters from the previous game, *Alice in the Country of Hearts*.

Since love would now start from a place of friendship rather than passion with a new stranger, she can experience a different type of romance from that in the previous game. Her dynamic with the characters is different through this friendship—characters can't always be forceful with her, and in many ways it's more comfortable to grow intimate. The relationships *between* the Ones With Duties have also become more of a factor.

In this game, the story focuses on the mafia. Alice attends the suited meetings (forcefully) and gets involved in various gunfights (forcefully), among other things.

Land fluctuations, sea creatures in the forest, and whispering doors—it's a game more fantastic and more eerie than the first.

Will our everywoman Alice be able to have a romantic relationship in a world devoid of common sense?



The World of "Alice"

ONE SUNDAY AFTER-NOON...

ALICE WAS KIDNAPPED AND BROUGHT TO WONDERLAND BY A WHITE RABBIT.

THERE, SHE FOUND THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS, WHERE BULLETS ALWAYS FLEW.

WHILE IT LOOKED LIKE A FAIRY TALE LAND ON THE SURFACE...

THE CITIZENS ALL CARRIED WEAPONS TO DEFEND THEM-SELVES.

A DANGEROUS WORLD WHERE MURDER WAS PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

THREE POWERS FOUGHT FOR TERRITORY IN THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS...

AND THE CLOCK TOWER WAS THE LONE NEUTRAL GROUND.

IN THIS STORY...

ALICE HAS DECIDED TO STAY IN HATTER MANSION, THE BASE OF ONE OF THE THREE DOMAINS FIGHTING FOR TERRITORY--AND THE HOME OF A MAFIA FAMILY.

AS SHE SPENT TIME WITH THE PEOPLE AT THE MANSION ...

ALICE BECAME A PART OF THE LIFE THERE.

THE RANDOMLY-CHANGING TIME PERIODS OF DAY, EVENING, AND NIGHT.

THE PEOPLE, SOME WITH FACES AND SOME WITHOUT.

AND THE SUDDEN LAND CHANGES CALLED "MOVING."

BUT EVEN WITH ALL THE STRANGE AND CONFUSING ASPECTS OF THIS WORLD...

ALICE FOUND HER HEART TORN BY ONE BIG CHOICE...

TO STAY IN WONDER-LAND...

OR TO RETURN TO HER WORLD?

TO FALL IN LOVE...

OR TO RUN AWAY FROM IT?

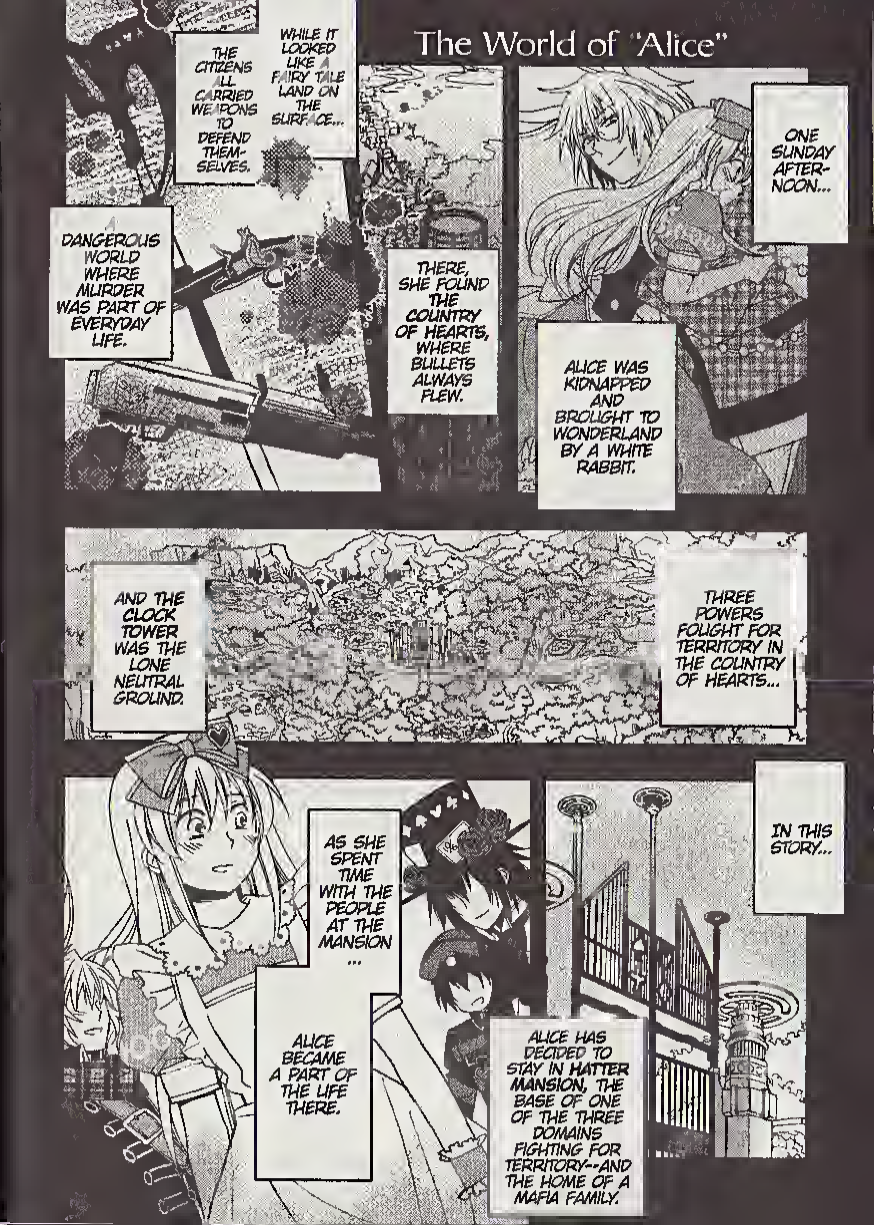
TO FACE HER FEARS...

OR TO HIDE AND LICK HER WOUNDS ?

NOW, ALICE...

HERE, IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER...

WHAT KIND OF STORY WILL YOU CREATE?



MY PERSONALITY... WELL, IT'S PRETTY DARK, AND NOT AT ALL CUTE.

MY NAME IS ALICE LIDDELL.

CHAPTER 1: CARROT-COLORED LOVE

I THINK IT'S OBVIOUS THAT I'M PRETTY NEGATIVE, TOO.

SINCE I'M NOT EVEN TRYING TO HIDE IT...

BUT THEN...

I THINK THIS EXPLAINS MY LACK OF ILLUSIONS, AND WHY I ACT A LITTLE MATURE FOR MY AGE.

SO I WANTED TO LEAVE HOME AND STRIKE OUT ON MY OWN AS SOON AS I COULD.

ANYONE WOULD BE, GROWING UP IN THE SHADOW OF SUCH A PERFECT OLDER SISTER-- KIND, GENTLE, AND SKILLED.

QueenRoseBox

QUIT SAYING THAT!

LIKE I SAID, I CAN READ YOU LIKE A--

WILT

DROOP

DEPRESSED YET AGAIN.

WILT...

DROOP...

WOW... EVEN HIS PINS ARE SAD!!

THE HEAD LUNATIC IN THIS ASYLUM IS THIS GUY, BLOOD DUPRE.

HE IS THE BOSS OF A MAFIA SYNDICATE CALLED "THE HATTER FAMILY."

AND HE'S ALSO MY BOSS...

HELLO, BEAUTIFUL.

HARD AT WORK, I SEE.

BLOOD.

HE DRESSES WEIRD AND IS REALLY UNPREDICTABLE, AND HE ALWAYS SEEMS A BIT LISTLESS.

WAH!

WHUMPH!!

BIG SIS!!

BUT I'M NOT IN THE MAFIA. I JUST WORK AS A MAID IN THE MANSION.

PITTER

PATTER

YES

I WAS ABLE TO GET MY HANDS ON A VERY RARE TEA.

SATISFACTION

YOU'RE UNUSUALLY CHIPPER FOR DAYTIME.

THAT WAS JUST THE BEGIN-NING...

I WAS KIDNAPPED BY A PERVERTED WHITE RABBIT NAMED PETER...

LONG STORY SHORT, I'M LIVING HERE, IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER.

AND BROUGHT TO THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS.

WELL, SCREWY BY MY STANDARDS, ANYWAY...

THIS WORLD IS SO SCREWY, I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW LONG I'VE BEEN GONE.

A CRAZY WORLD WHERE THE TIME OF DAY CHANGES RANDOMLY.

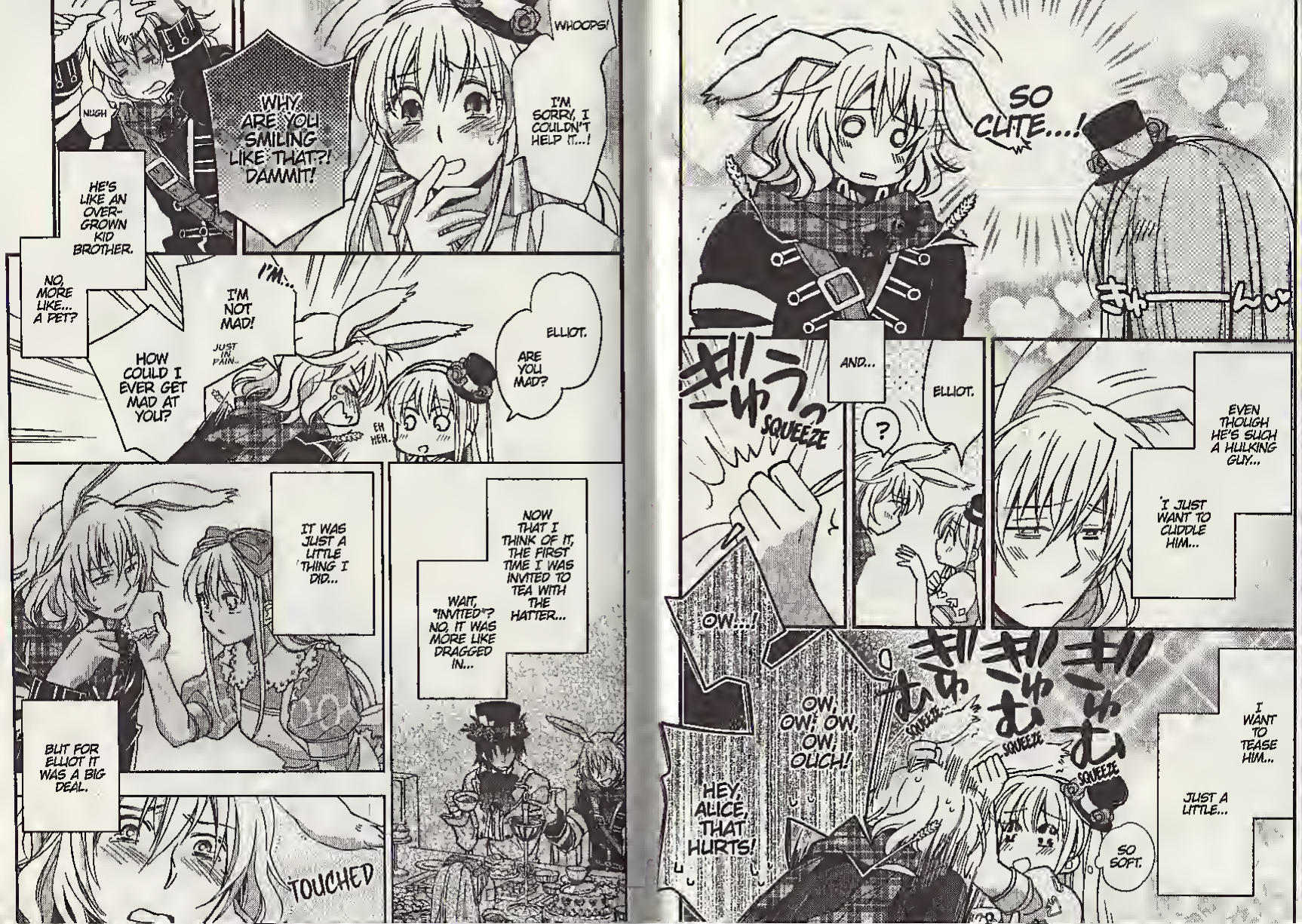
FAR AWAY FROM MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN MY OLD WORLD...

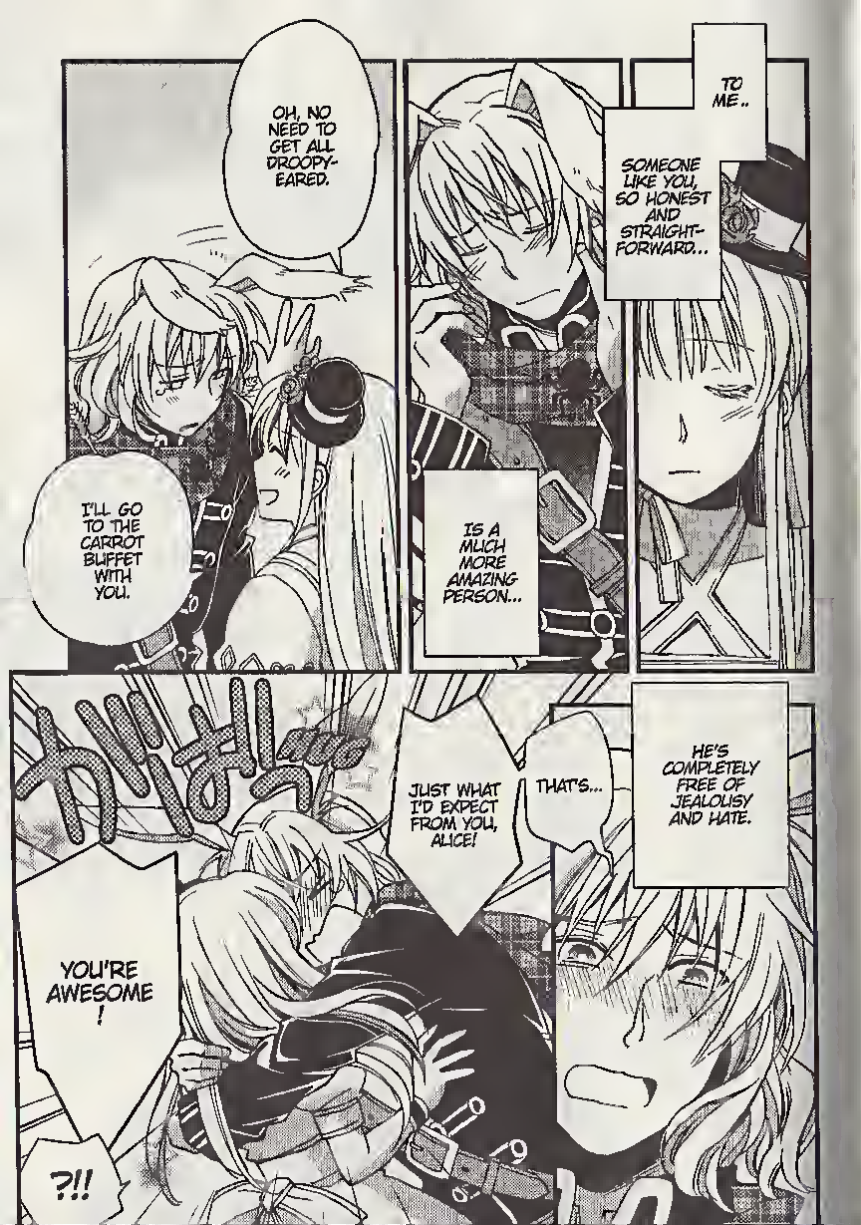
STILL, I'VE GROWN PRETTY ACCUSTOMED TO THIS WORLD...

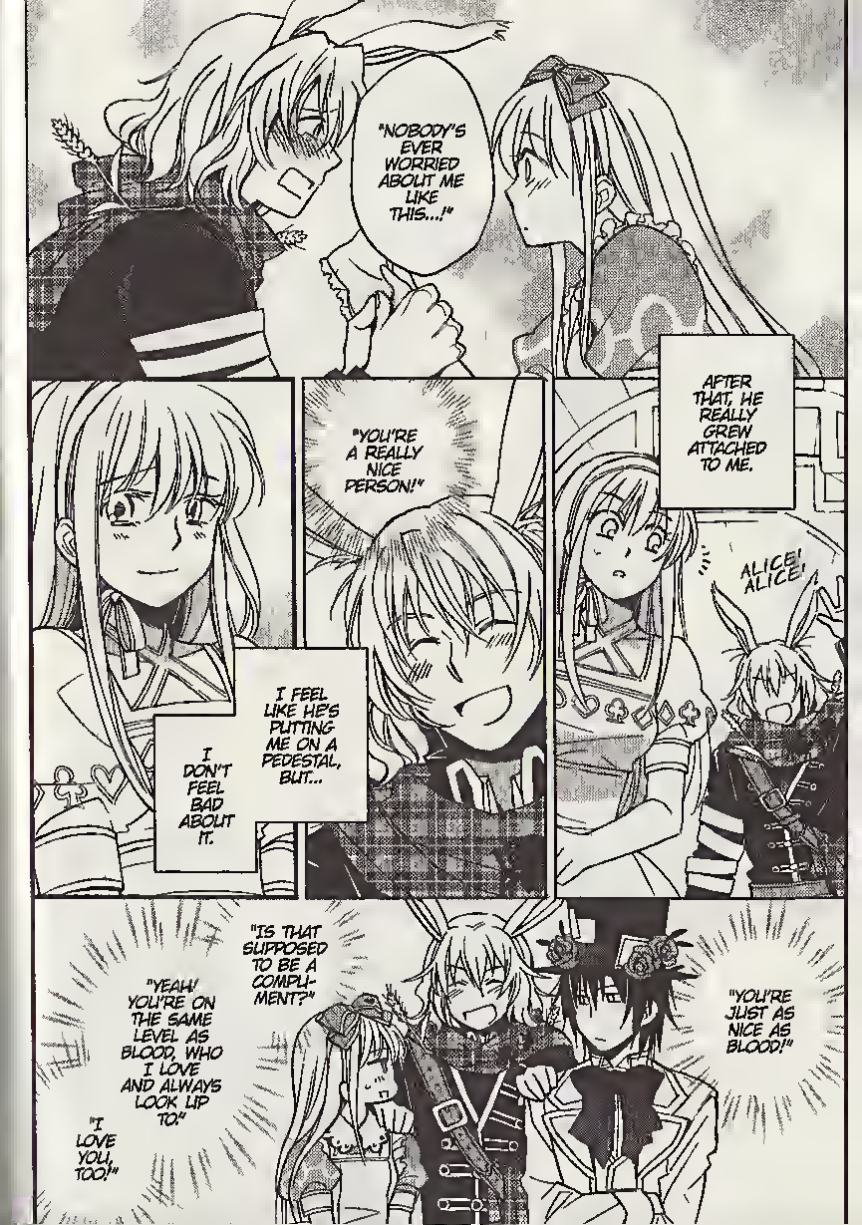
I STILL CAN'T GET USED TO THE VIOLENCE, BUT...
MEH.
THIS IS NOTHIN'. IT'LL BE GONE AFTER A FEW TIME PERIODS.
!
OH NO! YOU'RE BOTH INJURED!
THEY'VE DEFINITELY GOTTEN UNDER MY SKIN.
E-EVEN SO...
OH, HEY...
IF YOU'RE GONNA NURSE US, THAT'S A DIFFERENT STORY~!
OH, YEAH! HEY, THIS IS WORSE THAN I THOUGHT! IT TOTALLY HURTS~!
H-HEY...!
YOU!
LYING LITTLE SHITS!
YANK
DON'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALICE LIKE THAT!
AND THESE TWO RASCALS GUARD THE GATES OF HATTER MANSION.
THE TWINS, TWEEDLE DEE AND TWEEDLE DUM.
DEE!
DUM!
HEY! C'MON, ALICE-- DITCH WORK AND PLAY WITH US!
I CAN'T DO THAT!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR WORK?
HUH --?
WHO CARES?
HEY, BLOOD, YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THESE KIDS. CAN'T YOU WRANGLE THEM PROPERLY?
THE QUANTITY OF LEAF TIPS, THE DEPTH OF COLOR, THE SHAPE OF THE LEAVES, ALL CONTRIBUTING TO THE FRESH, VIBRANT TASTE...
I SUPPOSE IT'S BECAUSE OF THEIR LINE OF WORK.
ALTHOUGH THE TWINS ARE AWFULLY CUTE...
HEY, OUR WORK'S EASY
THEY'RE PRETTY SCARY
A COUPLA SWINGS AND WE'RE DONE!
GLEAM

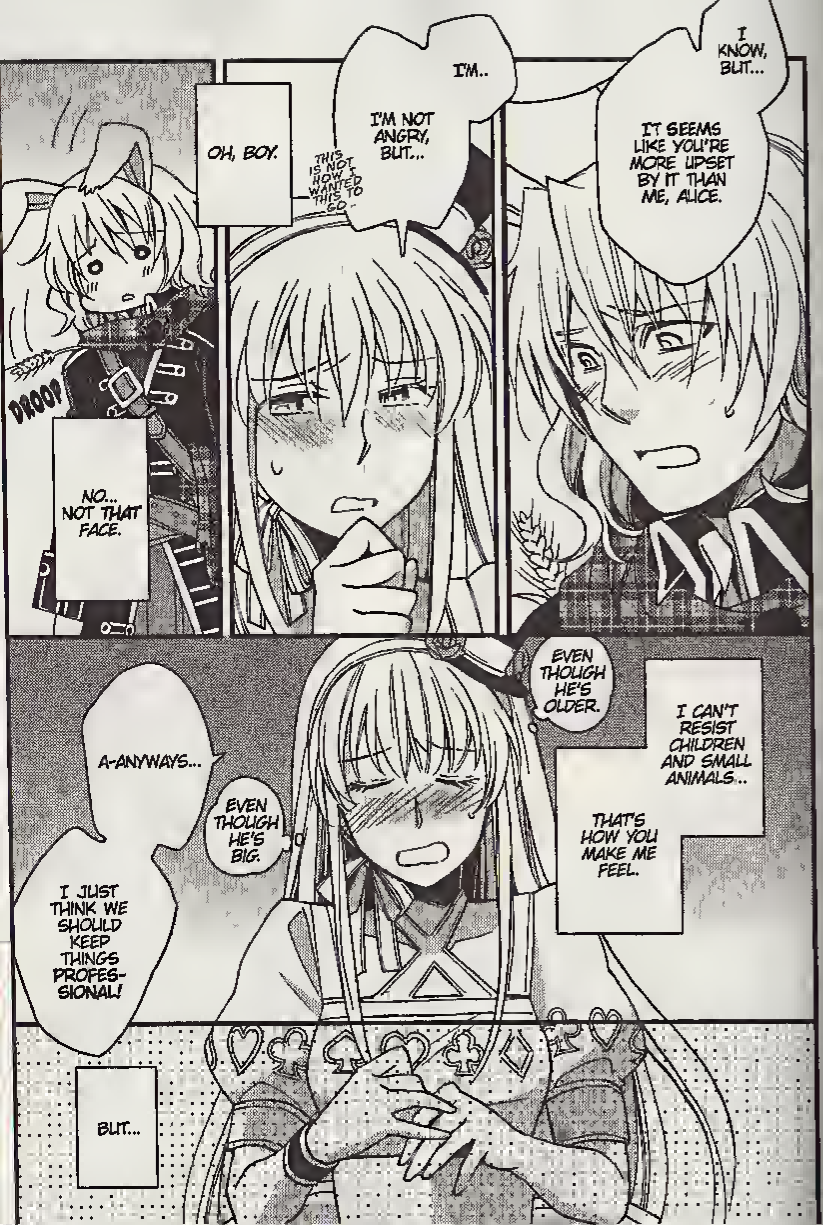
GET YOUR LAZY ASSES BACK TO WORK!
SHUT UP, LITTLE SQUIRTS!
DASH!
THIS FRIENDLI-NESS.
THIS UPBEAT PERSON-ALITY.
I'M SURE YOU'LL LOVE THE MAIN DESSERT, THE CARROT MILLE-FEUILLE!
I HOPE YA GET BETA-CAROTENE POISONING! DUMB RABBIT!
YUCK! WHO COULD POSSIBLY LOVE THAT?!
AHH, THE RICH AROMA WAFTING FROM THIS TEA...
TEA
RIGHT, BLOOD?
HE'S SURPRIS-INGLY SERIOUS ABOUT HIS WORK.
BEST NOT TO THINK ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THAT WORK.
JEEZ! IF THEY'D ONLY SPEND AS MUCH TIME WORKING AS FINDING WAYS TO DITCH...
SIMPLE, STUPID, AND A LITTLE SHORT-TEMPERED, BUT...
S...
YOU'LL COME, WON'T YOU, ALICE?
DROOP...
WHAT THE HELL, EVERY-ONE...
AND MOST OF ALL...
COME WITH ME, BLOOD!
IT'D GO GREAT WITH CARROT MILLE-FEUILLE!
NO, I'LL HAVE TO REFUSE.
WHAT--?

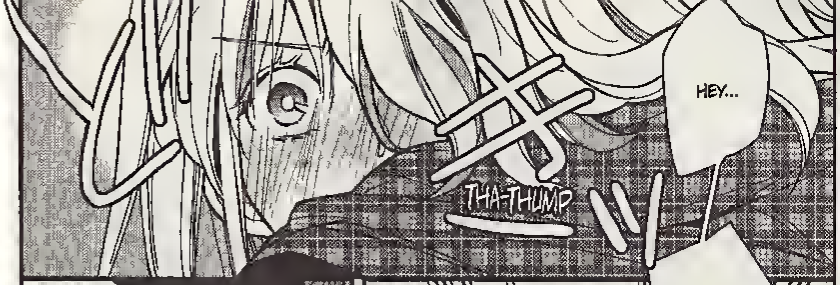
ELLIOT!
HEY-- ALICE!
HE'S THE TYPE WHO SHOOTS FIRST, AND ASKS QUESTIONS NEVER. SHORT-TEMPERED AND VIOLENT, HE IS LIKE A PERSONIFICATION OF THE MAFIA...
HE IS NUMBER TWO IN THE SYNDICATE AND BLOOD'S RIGHT HAND MAN.
AND THIS IS ELLIOT MARCH.
AT LEAST, THAT WAS MY FIRST IMPRESSION.
PERK
WANT TO GO TO A CARROT SWEETS BUFFET TOGETHER?
KICK
KICK
GLAD I FOUND YOU.
THREE THINGS
BUT THESE THINGS CUT HIS SCARINESS IN HALF.
AND THEN, OF COURSE...


SO CUTE...!
ぎゅーーん
EVEN THOUGH HE'S SUCH A HULKING GUY...
I JUST WANT TO CUDDLE HIM...
ELLIOT.
?
AND...
ぎゅうっ
SQUEEZE
I WANT TO TEASE HIM...
JUST A LITTLE...
SO SOFT.
ぎゅむ
SQUEEZE
ぎゅむ
SQUEEZE
ぎゅむ
SQUEEZE
OW, OW, OW, OW, OUCH!
OW...!
HEY, ALICE, THAT HURTS!
WHOOPS!
I'M SORRY, I COULDN'T HELP IT...!
WHY ARE YOU SMILING LIKE THAT?! DAMMIT!
NUGH
HE'S LIKE AN OVER-GROWN KID BROTHER.
NO, MORE LIKE... A PET?
ELLIOT.
ARE YOU MAD?
I'M...
I'M NOT MAD!
JUST IN PAIN...
HOW COULD I EVER GET MAD AT YOU?
EH HEH.
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, THE FIRST TIME I WAS INVITED TO TEA WITH THE HATTER...
WAIT, "INVITED"? NO, IT WAS MORE LIKE DRAGGED IN...
IT WAS JUST A LITTLE THING I DID...
BUT FOR ELLIOT IT WAS A BIG DEAL.
TOUCHED

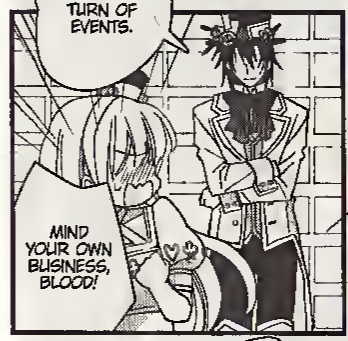

OH, NO NEED TO GET ALL DROOPY-EARED.
I'LL GO TO THE CARROT BUFFET WITH YOU.
TO ME..
SOMEONE LIKE YOU, SO HONEST AND STRAIGHT-FORWARD...
IS A MUCH MORE AMAZING PERSON...
HE'S COMPLETELY FREE OF JEALOUSY AND HATE.
THAT'S...
JUST WHAT I'D EXPECT FROM YOU, ALICE!
YOU'RE AWESOME!
?!!

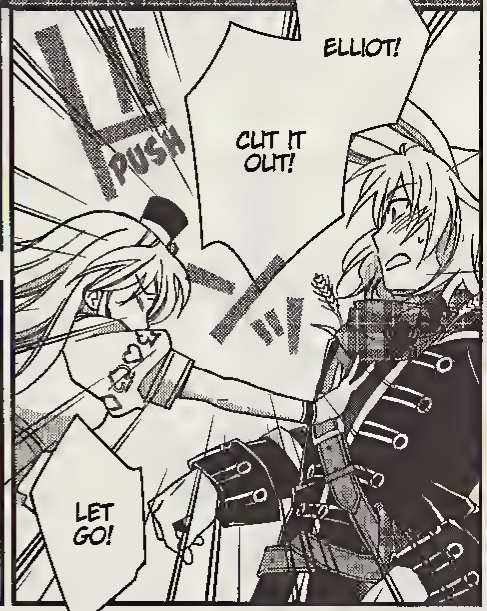

"NOBODY'S EVER WORRIED ABOUT ME LIKE THIS...!"
"YOU'RE A REALLY NICE PERSON!"
AFTER THAT, HE REALLY GREW ATTACHED TO ME.
ALICE! ALICE!
I FEEL LIKE HE'S PUTTING ME ON A PEDESTAL, BUT...
I DON'T FEEL BAD ABOUT IT.
"IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A COMPLI-MENT?"
"YEAH! YOU'RE ON THE SAME LEVEL AS BLOOD, WHO I LOVE AND ALWAYS LOOK UP TO!"
"I LOVE YOU, TOO!"
"YOU'RE JUST AS NICE AS BLOOD!"

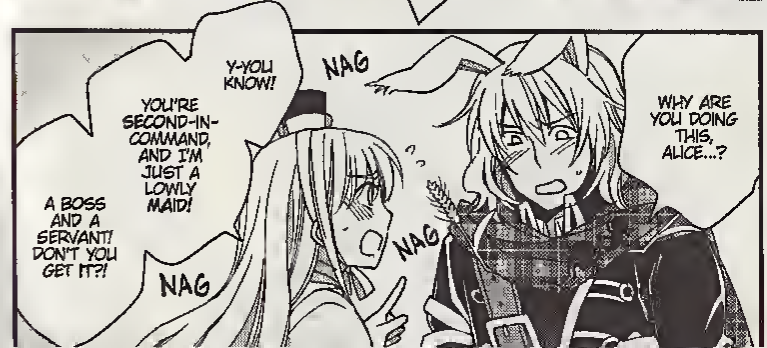

I KNOW, BUT...
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE MORE UPSET BY IT THAN ME, ALICE.
I'M..
I'M NOT ANGRY, BUT...
THIS IS NOT HOW I WANTED THIS TO GO
OH, BOY.
DROOP
NO... NOT THAT FACE.
EVEN THOUGH HE'S OLDER.
I CAN'T RESIST CHILDREN AND SMALL ANIMALS...
THAT'S HOW YOU MAKE ME FEEL.
A-ANYWAYS...
EVEN THOUGH HE'S BIG.
I JUST THINK WE SHOULD KEEP THINGS PROFES-SIONAL!
BUT...

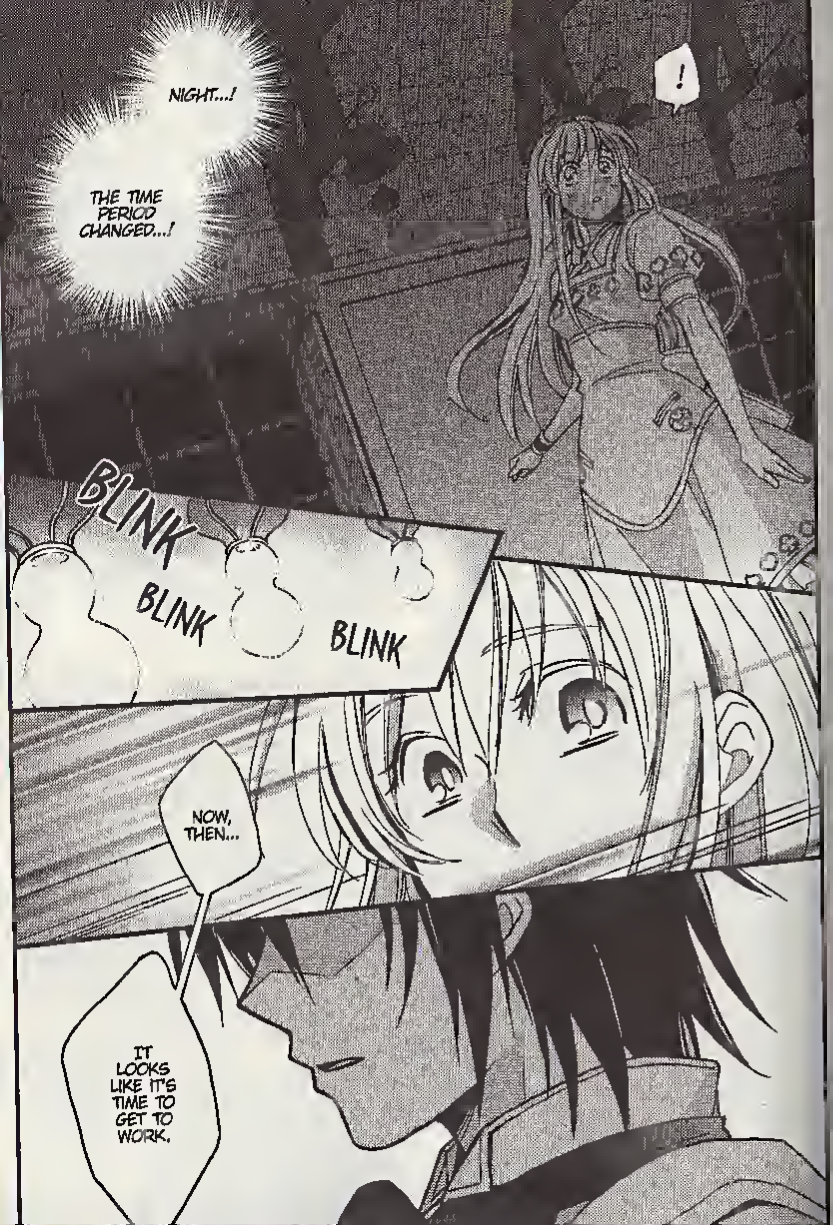

HEY...
THA-THUMP

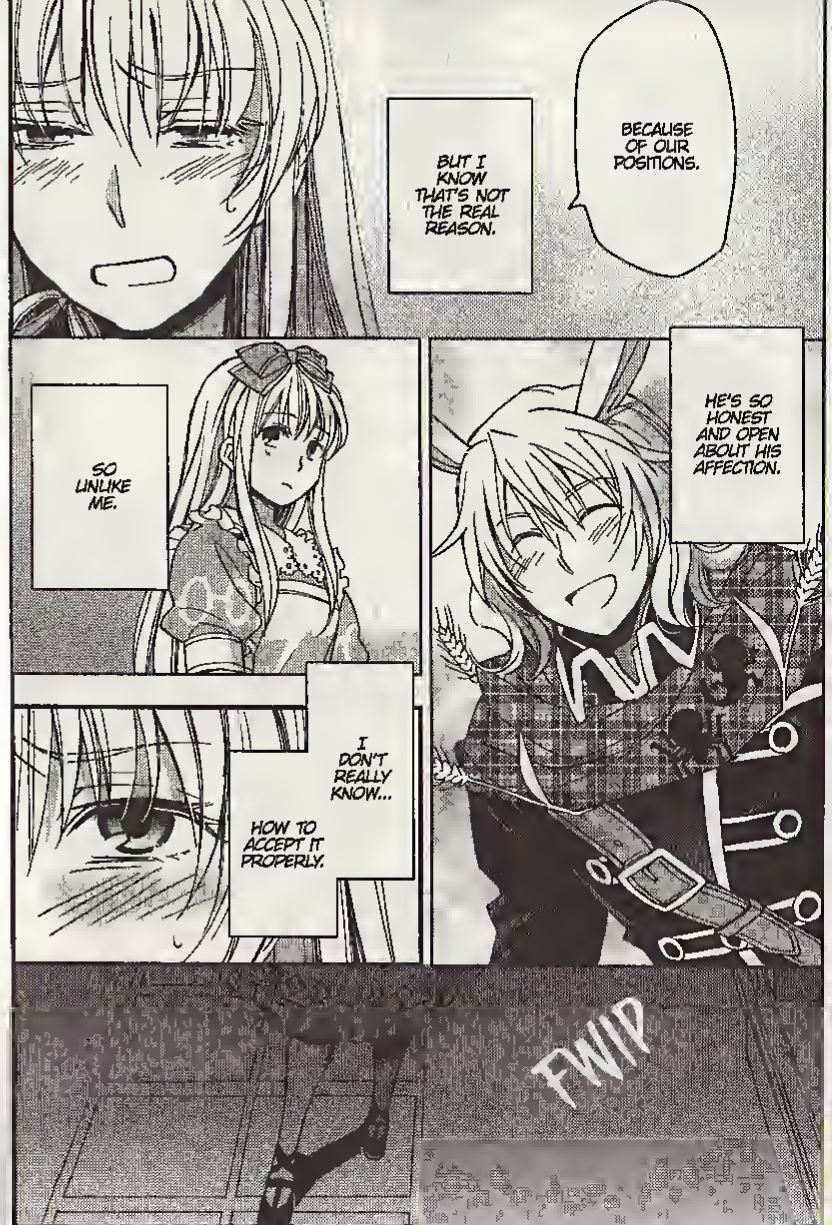
HO.


WHAT AN INTERESTING TURN OF EVENTS.
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, BLOOD!


ELLIOT!
PUSH
CUT IT OUT!
LET GO!


Y-YOU KNOW!
NAG
YOU'RE SECOND-IN-COMMAND, AND I'M JUST A LOWLY MAID!
A BOSS AND A SERVANT! DON'T YOU GET IT?!
NAG
NAG
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS, ALICE...?


NIGHT...!
THE TIME PERIOD CHANGED...!
!
BLINK
BLINK
BLINK
NOW, THEN...
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME TO GET TO WORK.


BECAUSE OF OUR POSITIONS.
BUT I KNOW THAT'S NOT THE REAL REASON.
HE'S SO HONEST AND OPEN ABOUT HIS AFFECTION.
SO UNLIKE ME.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW...
HOW TO ACCEPT IT PROPERLY.
FWIP

ALICE...
FLINCH
ELLIOT, YOU SHOULD SERIOUSLY LEARN TO BE A LITTLE MORE PATIENT.
THA-THUMP
IF THEY'RE SO DANGEROUS, WE SHOULD JUST KILL THEM ALL NOW.
WON'T IT BE EASIER IF WE JUST BLOW THEIR BRAINS OUT?
SEE YOU LATER! WE'RE OFF!
THA-THUMP
THA-THUMP
THA-THUMP

RUSTLE
THA-THUMP
MAKES NO SENSE.
UGH, I'M NO GOOD AT THAT KIND OF JOB.
IT'S IMPORTANT, BUT A BIT DULL.
WE'LL JUST WATCH FOR THEM TO MAKE THE FIRST MOVE.
SO WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THIS JOB, AGAIN?

NIGHT-MARE...

YOU LOOK PRETTY DOWN, ALICE.

THAT'S NIGHTMARE GOTTSCHALK.

HE IS THE LEADER OF THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER.

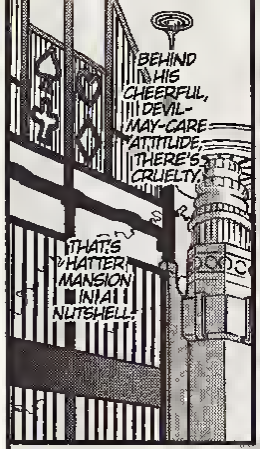
FOR ONE THING, HE CAN READ PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS AND ENTER THEIR DREAMS.

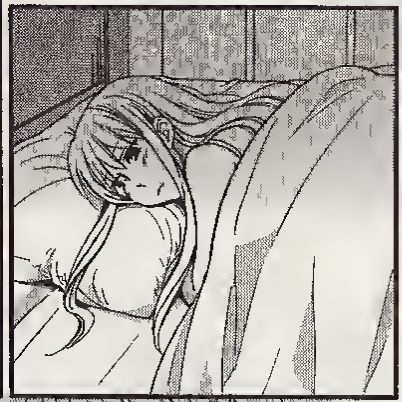
I'VE GOT A LOT ON MY MIND.

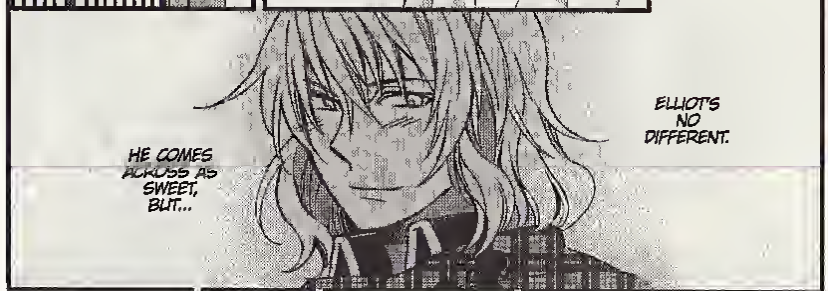
HE'S VERY POWER-FUL.

AND HE HAS A MYSTERIOUS AURA AROUND HIM, BUT...

HE'S GOT A BEAUTIFUL FACE.

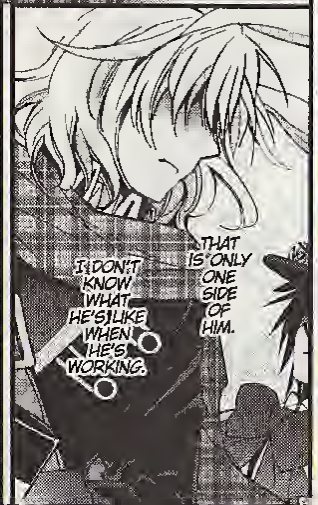






I LIKE HIM.

BUT HE'S SCARY...



SHO TELL ME AAALL ABOU' IT!
HE CAN NEVER QUITE STICK THE LANDING.
WOBBLE
YOU'RE DRUNK, AREN'T YOU, NIGHT-MARE...?
YOU'LL JUST READ MY THOUGHTS IF I DON'T SAY ANYTHING.
DID YOU GO DRINKING WITH ELLIOT?
YOU WERE SHLEEPIN' SO HE CALLED ME OUT!
THAT'S AWFUL FRIENDLY OF YOU GUYS...
ELLIOT WUZ CRYING CUZ HE COULDN'T SHEE YOU AFTER WORK!
AN' I HADTA SIT THERE AN' LISTEN WHILE HE WENT ON AN' ON! FER SUCHA BIG GUY, HE SURE WUZ ACTIN' LIKE A BABY... KOFF! KOFF!
SPURT
THAT'S ANOTHER THING ABOUT NIGHT-MARE-- HE'S VERY SICKLY.
GAH! BLOOD! BLOOD!
BU' THEN I STARTED VOMITIN' BLOOD, SHO I GOT TA LEAVE...
HEH
SEE? COUGHIN' UP BLOOD IS USHFUL!
AND HE HATES GOING TO THE HOSPITAL.
BUT... IT'S TRUE.
WHEN HE CAN'T SEE YOU, HE GETS SO LONELY HE WANTS TO DIE.
I... SEE.
AHH!
NO, NO. MY HEART SHOULDN'T SKIP A BEAT OVER SOME-THING LIKE THAT...
SOUNDS LIKE YOU CAN SENSE THE TRUTH IN THAT.
MY HEART...
IF HE GETS ANY MORE LOVING TOWARDS ME, MY HEART WILL GIVE OUT.
THA-THUMP
THA-THUMP
YOUR HEART...
HMM.
SO, YOUR HEART RACES WHEN YOU'RE NEAR HIM.
.....
DOESN'T THAT MEAN THAT YOU HAVE FEELINGS FOR ELLIOT?
OF COURSE. THIS IS A LOVE STORY, AFTER ALL...
YOU'RE WRONG!
THIS...IS DIFFERENT...
IT'S NOT...!
SQUEEZE

I'M SCARED.

I'M JUST SCARED.

THERE'S A PART OF YOU I DON'T KNOW.

WHAT DO THEY CALL IT: "MISATTRIBUTION OF AROUSAL," WHERE YOU MISTAKE FEAR FOR LOVE...

THIS CAN'T BE LOVE.

ALICE. GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF.

THE THOUGHT OF GOING THROUGH...

ALL OF THAT PAIN AGAIN...

TONK

HAVEN'T YOU ALWAYS WANTED THIS?

SOMEONE WHO WILL LOVE YOU DEEPLY AND HAVE EYES ONLY FOR YOU.

THA-THUMP...

WHY ARE YOU SO DISTRESSED?

THAT'S TRUE, BUT...

.....

BUT I'M SCARED

HE'S JUST WORRIED ABOUT ME BECAUSE I CAN'T PROTECT MYSELF.

I'M SURE THE ONLY REASON ELLIOT LIKES ME IS I'M AN OUTSIDER TO THIS WORLD.

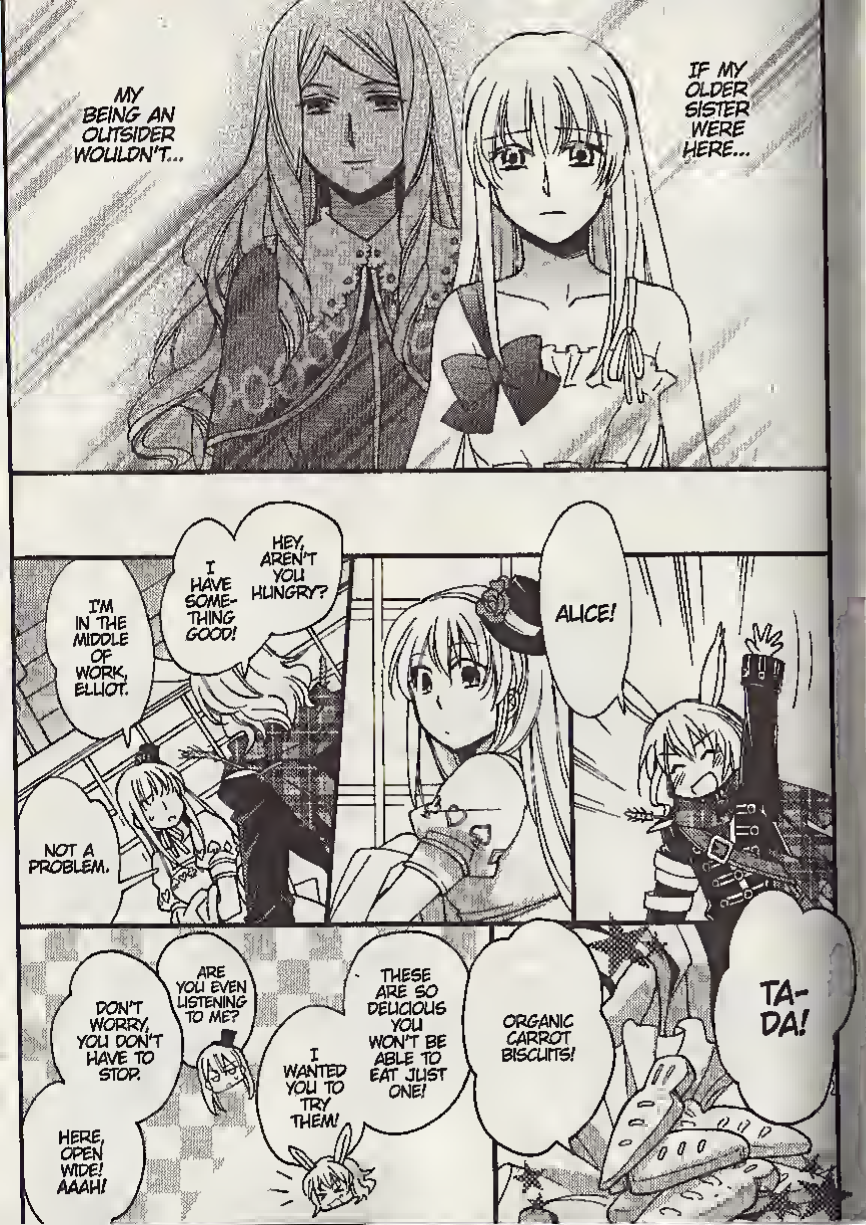
HE'S THE TYPE OF GUY WHO CARES DEEPLY FOR YOU ONCE HE LETS YOU IN.

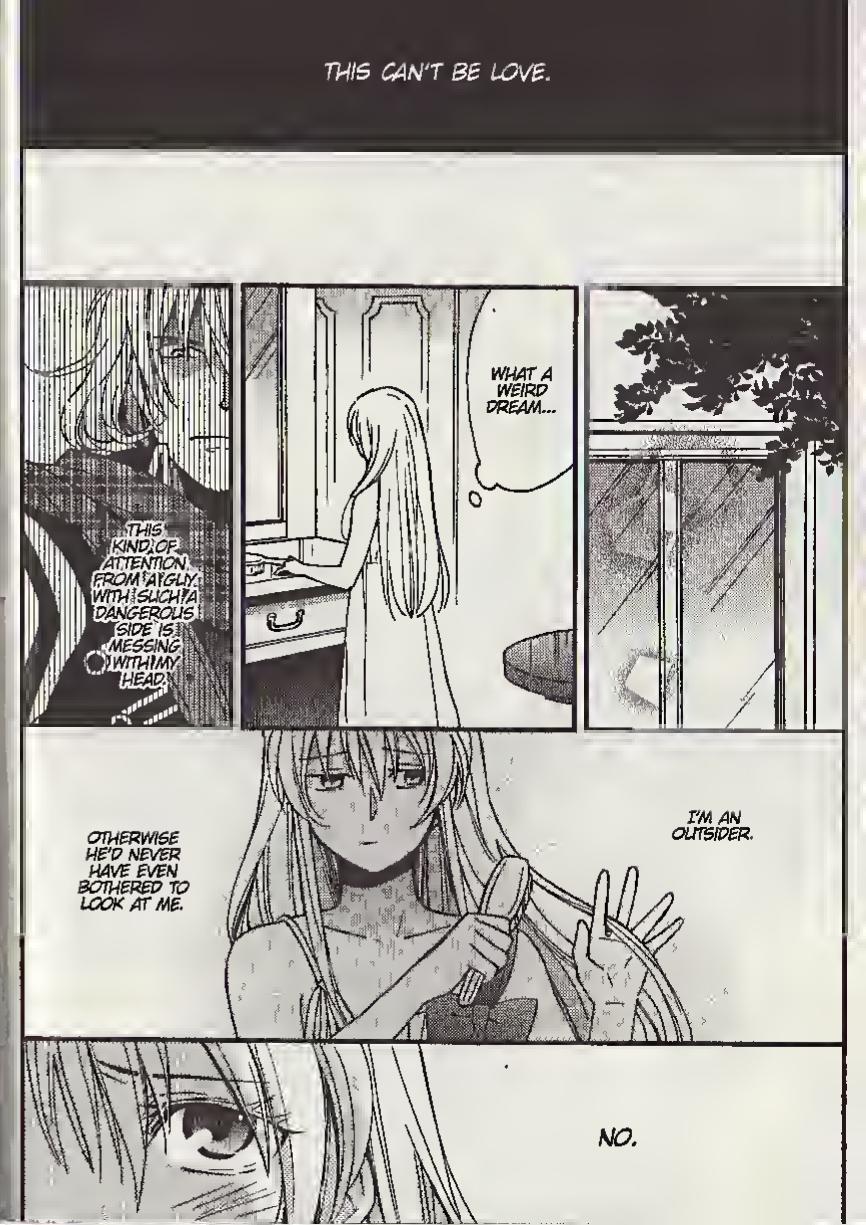
SEEING THAT LOOK ON ELLIOT'S FACE...

IT JUST FREEZES ME IN MY TRACKS.

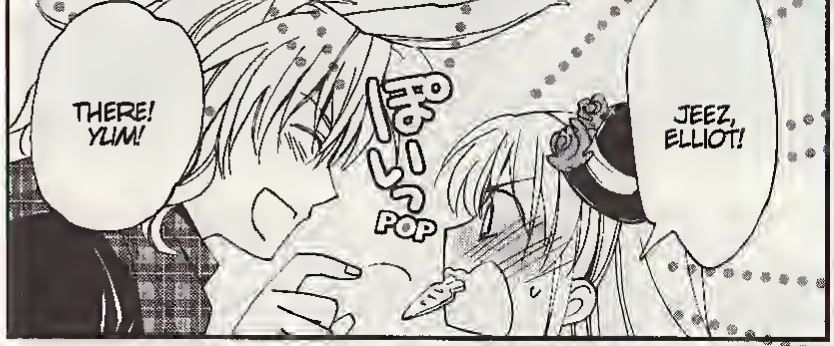
I'M SCARED.
THUMP
I'M SCARED...
THUMP
MY HANDS ARE SHAKING.
MY LEGS WON'T MOVE.
THUMP
AND MY HEART IS RACING.
THUMP
THUMP
SEE.
IT ALL WENT WRONG AT OUR FIRST MEETING.
SEE, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
THUMP
I'M JUST CONFUSING LOVE AND FEAR.
...

...THUMP
ELLIOT ...?
THUMP
THAT'S RIGHT.
ELLIOT PULLED A GUN ON ME WHEN I FIRST MET HIM.
BLOOD STOPPED HIM, BUT I COULD EASILY HAVE DIED RIGHT THERE...
THUMP
"THAT WOULD MAKE ANY RANDOM PASSERBY AN ENEMY!"
"THAT'S RIDIC-ULOUS!"
"IF YOU'RE NOT A FRIEND, YOU'RE AN ENEMY!"
TALK LIKE THE MEAN THUG I MET THAT DAY.
THUMP
DAMMIT, ELLIOT...
TALK TOUGH.


MY BEING AN OUTSIDER WOULDN'T...
IF MY OLDER SISTER WERE HERE...
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF WORK, ELLIOT.
I HAVE SOMETHING GOOD!
HEY, AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?
ALICE!
NOT A PROBLEM.
DON'T WORRY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO STOP.
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME?
HERE, OPEN WIDE! AAAH!
I WANTED YOU TO TRY THEM!
THESE ARE SO DELICIOUS YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO EAT JUST ONE!
ORGANIC CARROT BISCUITS!
TA-DA!

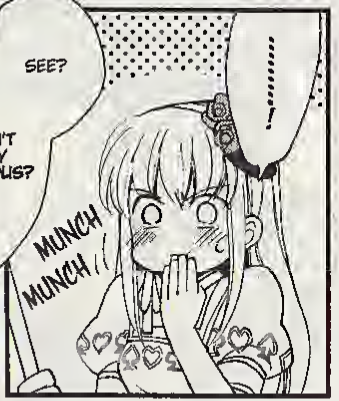

THIS CAN'T BE LOVE.
THIS KIND OF ATTENTION FROM A GUY WITH SUCH A DANGEROUS SIDE IS MESSING WITH MY HEAD.
WHAT A WEIRD DREAM...
OTHERWISE HE'D NEVER HAVE EVEN BOTHERED TO LOOK AT ME.
I'M AN OUTSIDER.
NO.

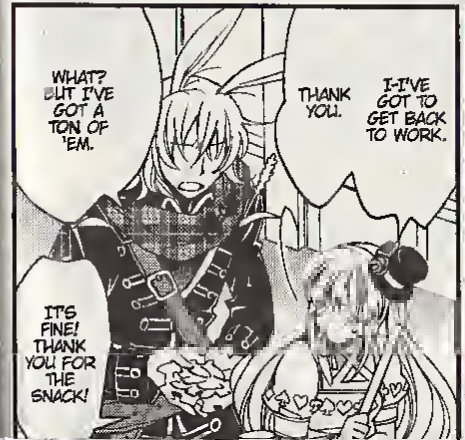
I'M BUSY SORTING THESE BOOKS!
HEY--
ALICE!
WHAT...?
SORRY! I HAVE TO WASH ALL THESE WINDOWS!
ALICE!
WHAAAAT?
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING REALLY HARD LATELY~.
WHEW!
I LIKE TO KEEP BUSY.
IF I DON'T, MY MIND GOES WANDERING OFF...
IT'S A BAD HABIT OF MINE.


THERE! YUM!
ぽいっ
POP
JEEZ, ELLIOT!

...

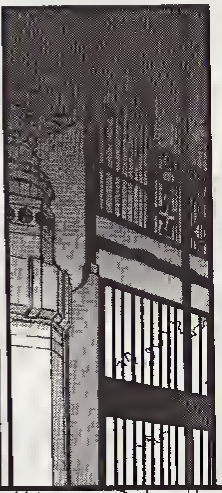
SEE?
AREN'T THEY DELICIOUS?
GRIN

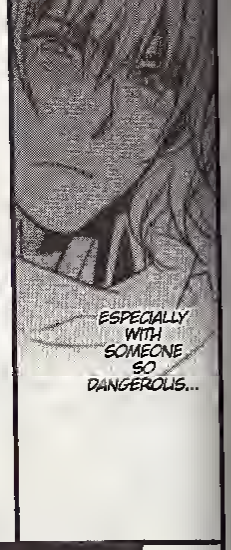

!
MUNCH MUNCH

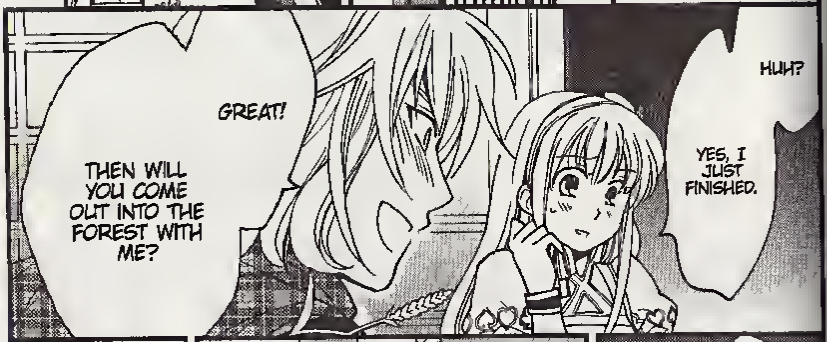

WHAT? BUT I'VE GOT A TON OF 'EM.
THANK YOU.
I-I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO WORK.
IT'S FINE! THANK YOU FOR THE SNACK!

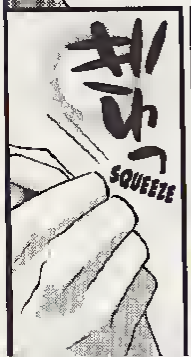
ドクン
THA-THUMP

ALICE! HEY, ALICE!
ARE YOU DONE WITH WORK?



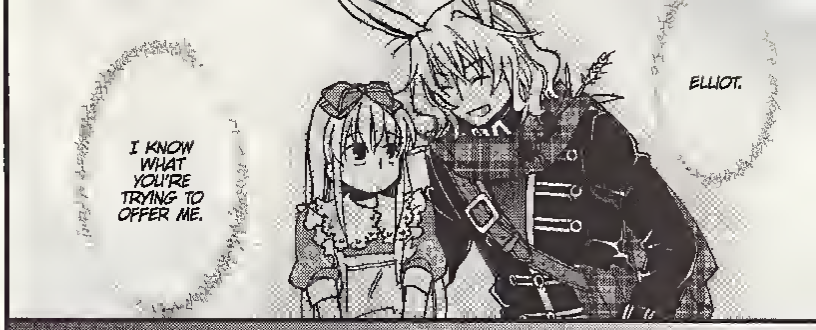

ESPECIALLY WITH SOMEONE SO DANGEROUS...


GREAT!
THEN WILL YOU COME OUT INTO THE FOREST WITH ME?
HUH?
YES, I JUST FINISHED.

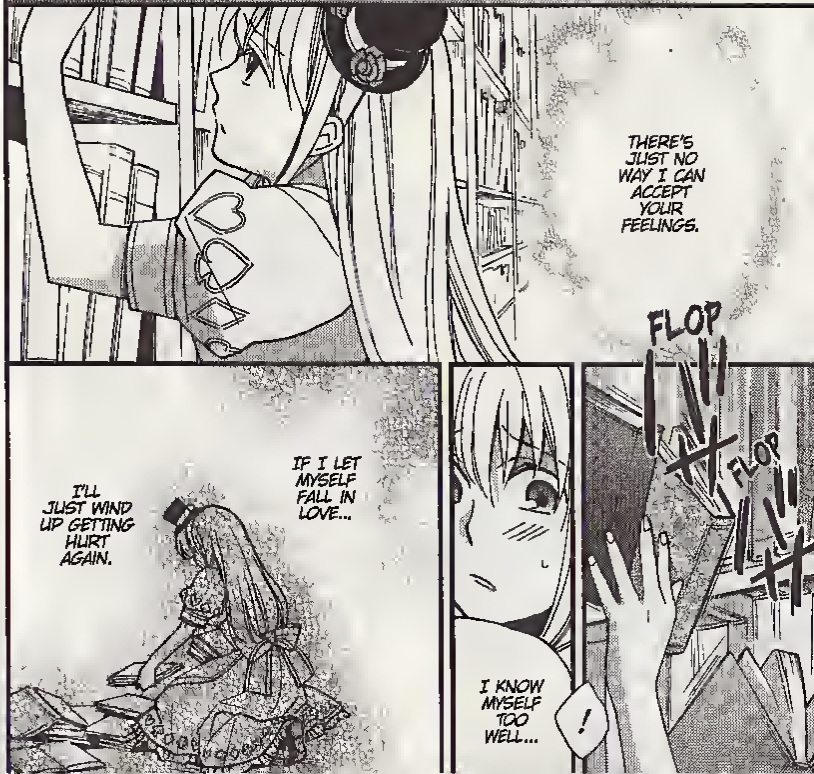

SQUEEZE

UM, WHAT I MEANT IS..
.....
AHEM!

AT NIGHT?
THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT!


I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO OFFER ME.
ELLIOT.

BUT


THERE'S JUST NO WAY I CAN ACCEPT YOUR FEELINGS.
FLOP
FLOP
I'LL JUST WIND UP GETTING HURT AGAIN.
IF I LET MYSELF FALL IN LOVE...
I KNOW MYSELF TOO WELL...
!

THA-THUMP

IF IT'S...

FOR YOU...

WATCH YOUR STEP!

WE'RE GOING IN PRETTY DEEP...

TRUST ME, THIS'LL BE WORTH IT!

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

THAT KIND OF THING.

I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE...

YOU'RE A GIRL, SO...

DEEP IN THE FOREST...

THERE'S A REALLY BEAUTIFUL, SCENIC SPOT.

.....

YOU'VE BEEN BUSY WITH WORK ALL THE TIME, AND YOU LOOK PRETTY DEPRESSED...

ギュッ

SQUEEZE

I...

I MEAN.

ALICE, LATELY...

I...

HEY, I CAN BE PLENTY ROMANTIC!

HEH HEH. YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M SORRY.

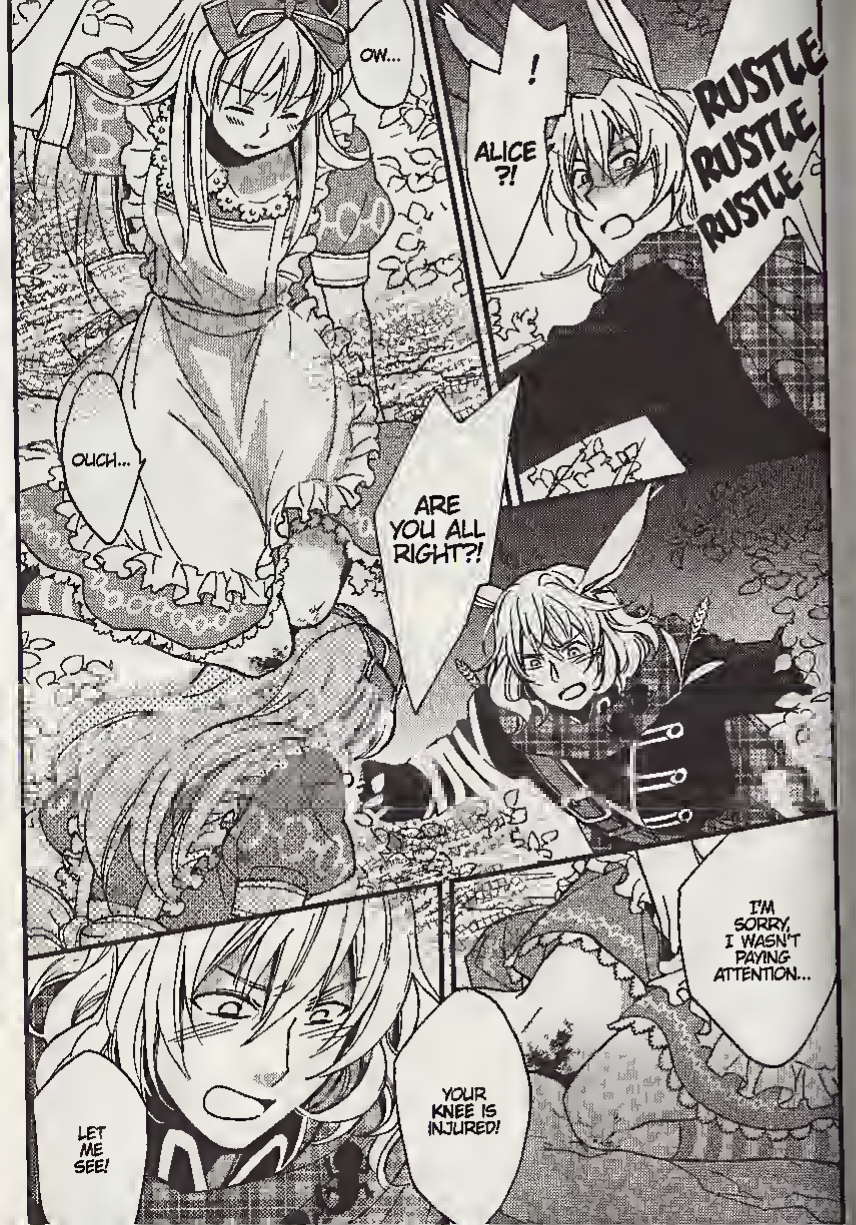
I... I DIDN'T SAY THAT.

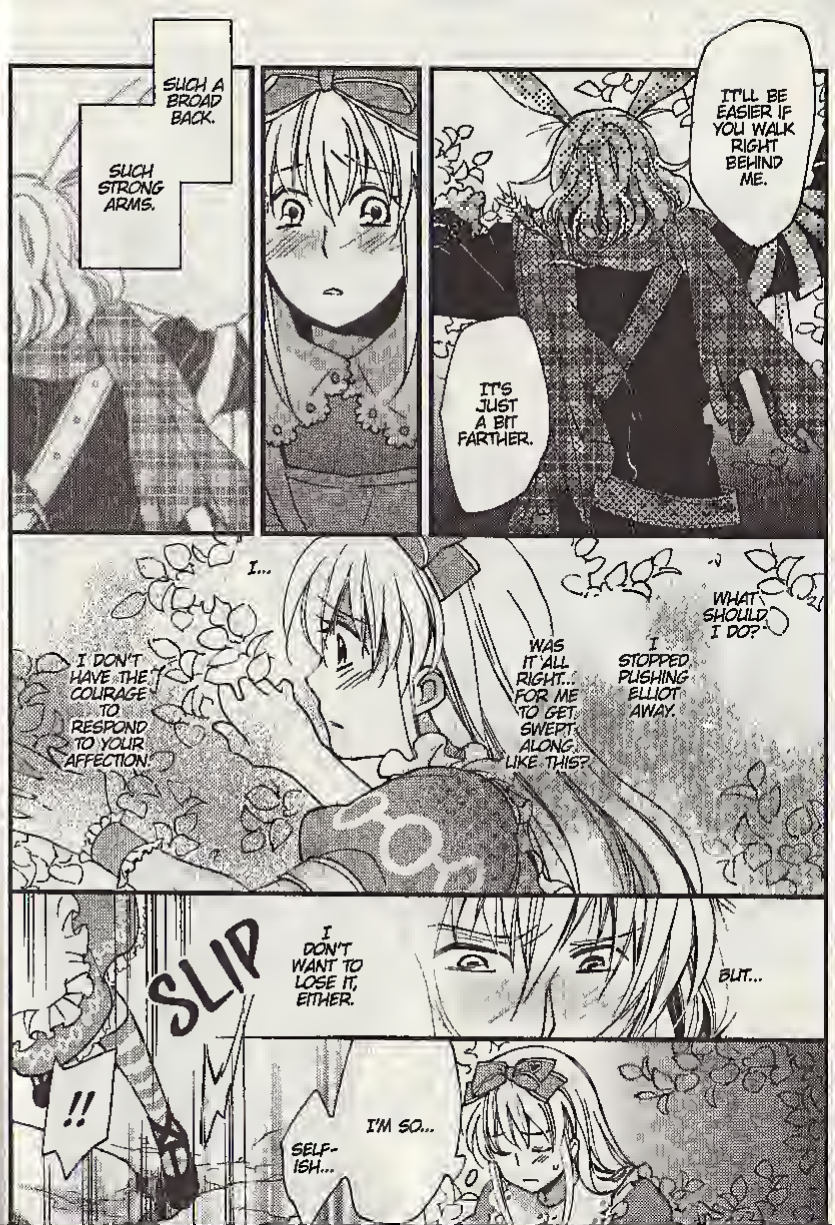
.....

YOU DON'T WANT TO GO?

I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT KIND OF ROMANTIC STUFF FROM YOU.

IT'S JUST...


OW...
!
ALICE ?!
RUSTLE RUSTLE RUSTLE
OUCH...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
I'M SORRY, I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION...
LET ME SEE!
YOUR KNEE IS INJURED!


SUCH A BROAD BACK.
SUCH STRONG ARMS.
IT'LL BE EASIER IF YOU WALK RIGHT BEHIND ME.
IT'S JUST A BIT FARTHER.
I...
I DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO RESPOND TO YOUR AFFECTION!
WAS IT ALL RIGHT... FOR ME TO GET SWEPT ALONG LIKE THIS?
I STOPPED PUSHING ELLIOT AWAY.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SLIP
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE IT, EITHER.
BUT...
!!
I'M SO...
SELF-ISH...

RELAX. STAY STILL.

!

FWUP

WH...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

YOU'RE AN OUTSIDER, SO YOUR INJURIES MIGHT NOT JUST DISAPPEAR WITH A FEW TIME PERIODS.

B...

BUT...

LICK

HEY...

DRIP...

DRIP

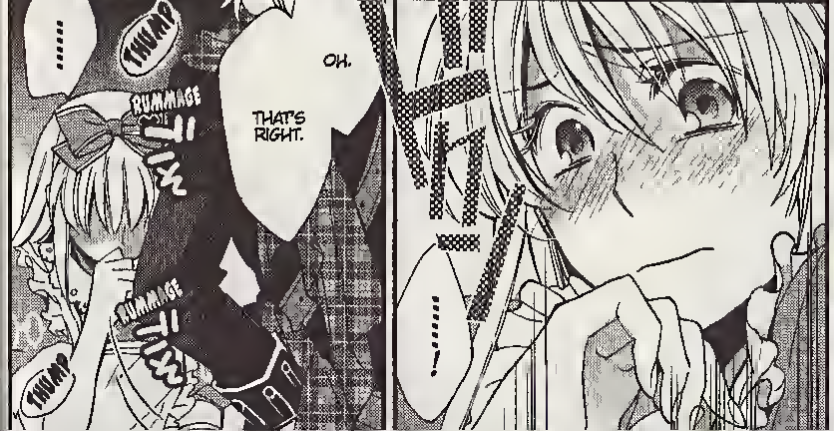
!

HEY, STOP...

.....?!

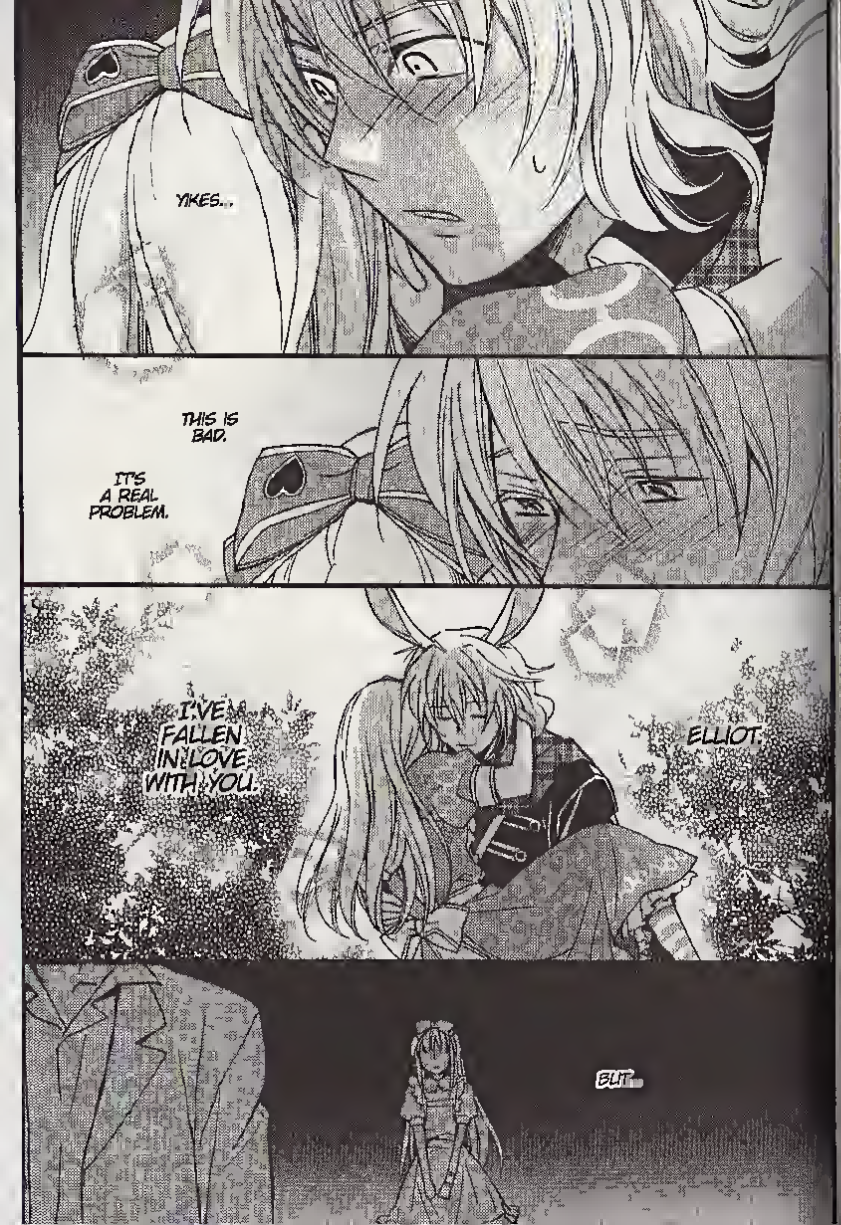
IT'S THE ONE I GAVE ELLIOT BACK THEN...
MM.
THERE WE GO!
THIS HAND-KERCHIEF.
OH.
I'VE BEEN TREASURING THIS.

I'M NOT INJURED THERE!
I SAID STOP!
LICK
.....
YOU SURE, SWEET-HEART?
THA-THUMP

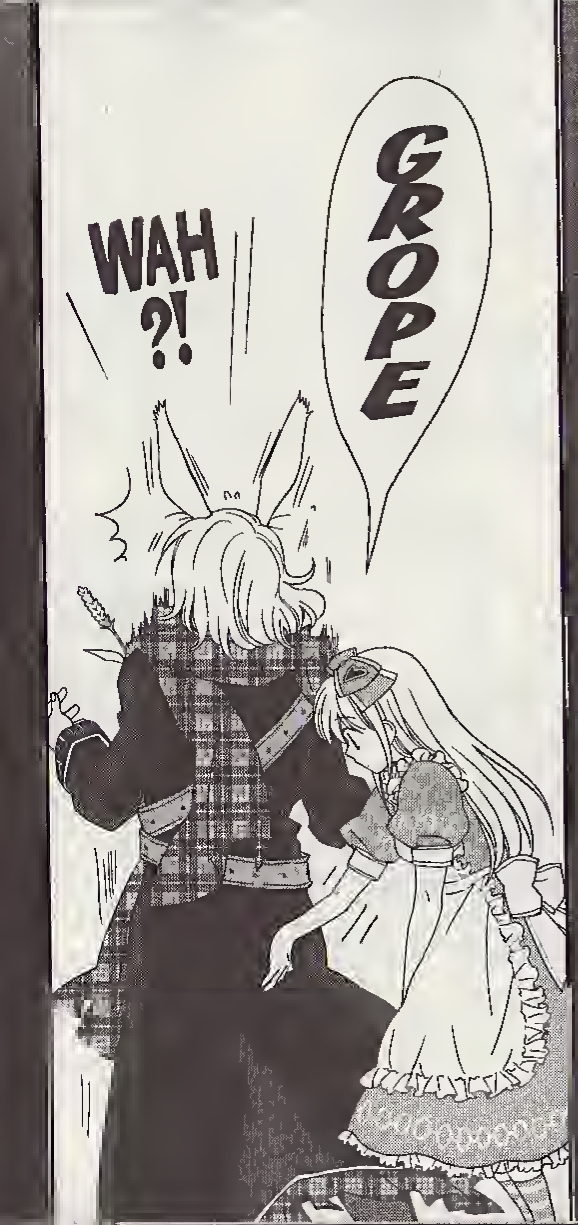

.....
THUMP
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE
THUMP
OH.
THAT'S RIGHT.
.....!

ひょいっ
LIFT
!!
ALL RIGHT!
LET'S GO BACK TO THE MANSION!
Y...
YES...
I MEAN, ME CARRYING YOU.
YOU OKAY WITH THIS?
GOOD.
SO MANY EXPRESSIONS...
THUMP
HIS FAMILIAR SMILE. THAT GRIN THAT MAKES MY KNEES GO WEAK.
OHH... WHAT AM I GONNA DO?
AND NOW THIS CALM, PEACEFUL EXPRESSION.
HEH HEH.
I WAS REALLY HAPPY WHEN YOU DID THAT.
EVERY TIME I SAW THIS HANDKERCHIEF, THE THOUGHT OF YOU CHEERED ME UP.
THUMP
ドキ...
SO...
LET ME RETURN THE FAVOR.
I WANT TO BE KIND TO YOU, TOO.
ドキ
THUMP
ドキ...
THUMP...
HE'S CARRIED IT WITH HIM ALL THIS TIME...
ドキン
THUMP
ドキン...
THUMP...

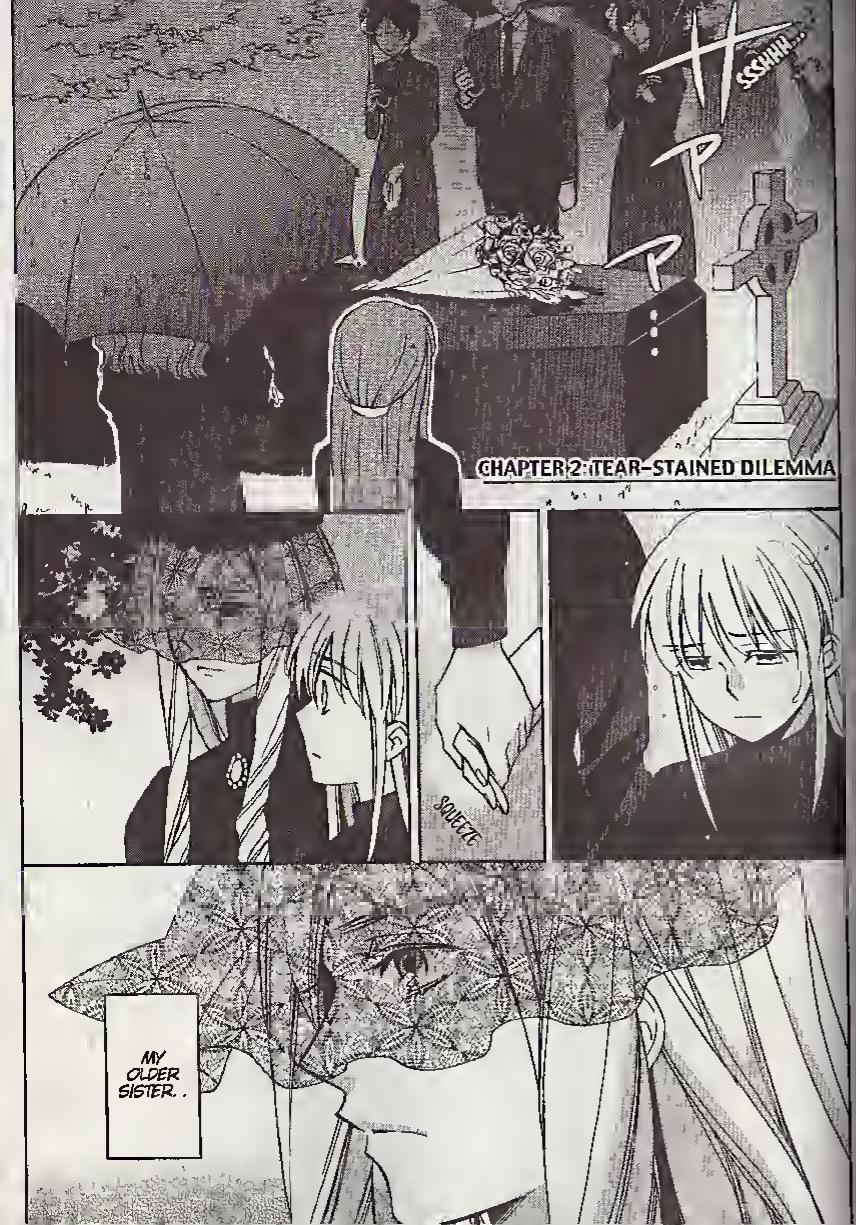
THIS IS WHAT I WANTED TO SHOW YOU.
LOOK AT THEIR COLOR! A DELICIOUS CARROT ORANGE.
YES...
HEE HEE!
THAT TICKLES!
THE COLOR OF CARROTS OUTSHINES THE COLD GRAY OF GUNS.
SO WARM.
ELLIOT
WHEN YOU SMILE LIKE THAT...
IT FEELS LIGHTER...
EVEN THOUGH MY HEART IS RACING, JUST LIKE BEFORE...
MY FEELINGS ARE BEING OVERWRITTEN.
AND SO WARM...
YUP!
BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?
WHAT IS THIS... FIRE-FLIES?
SO PRETTY...
OH!


YIKES...
THIS IS BAD.
IT'S A REAL PROBLEM.
I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU.
ELLIOT.
BUT...

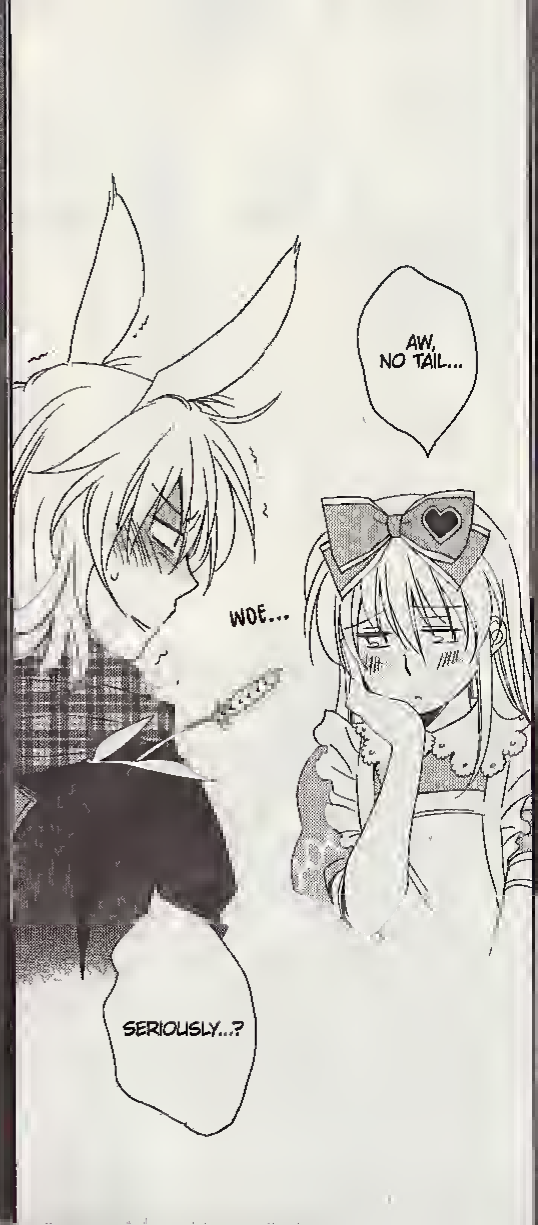
MY HEART...
WANTS TO BE WASHED IN THAT COLOR.
SQUEEZE...

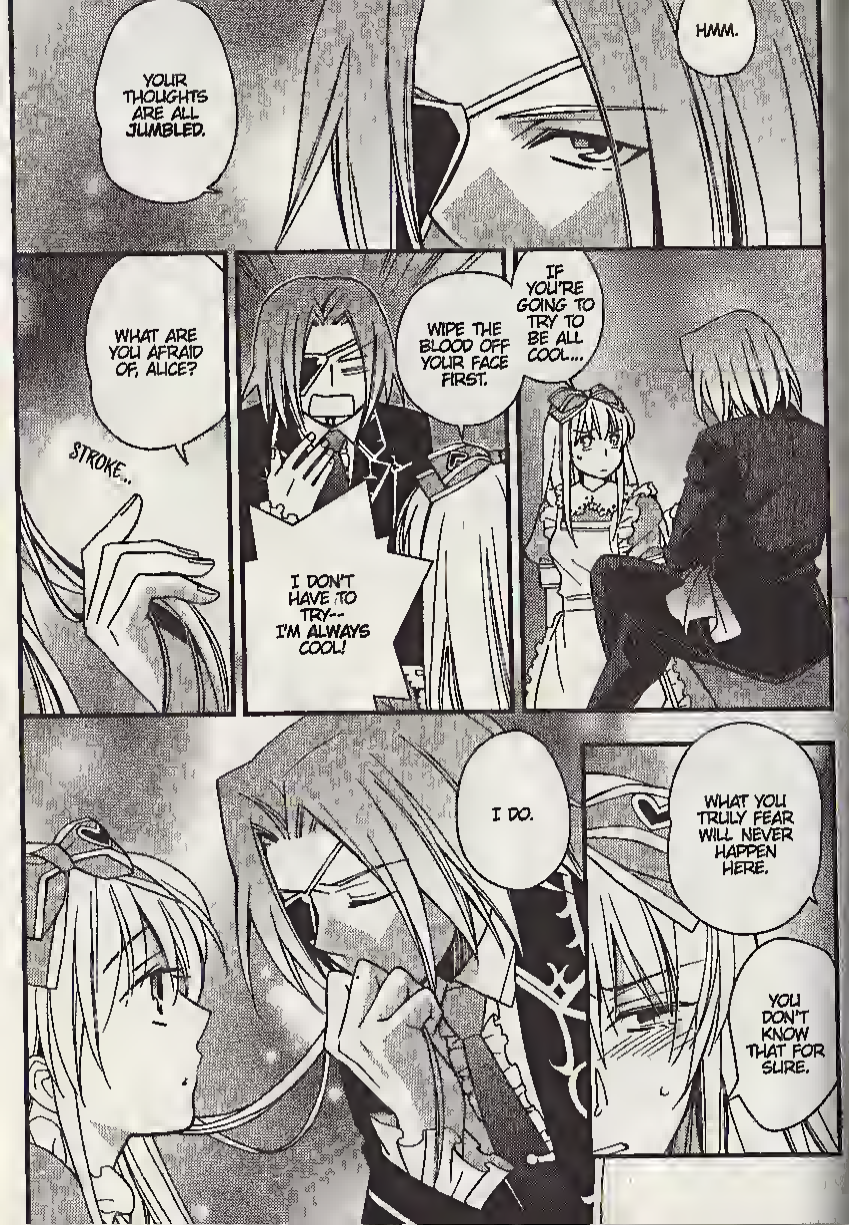


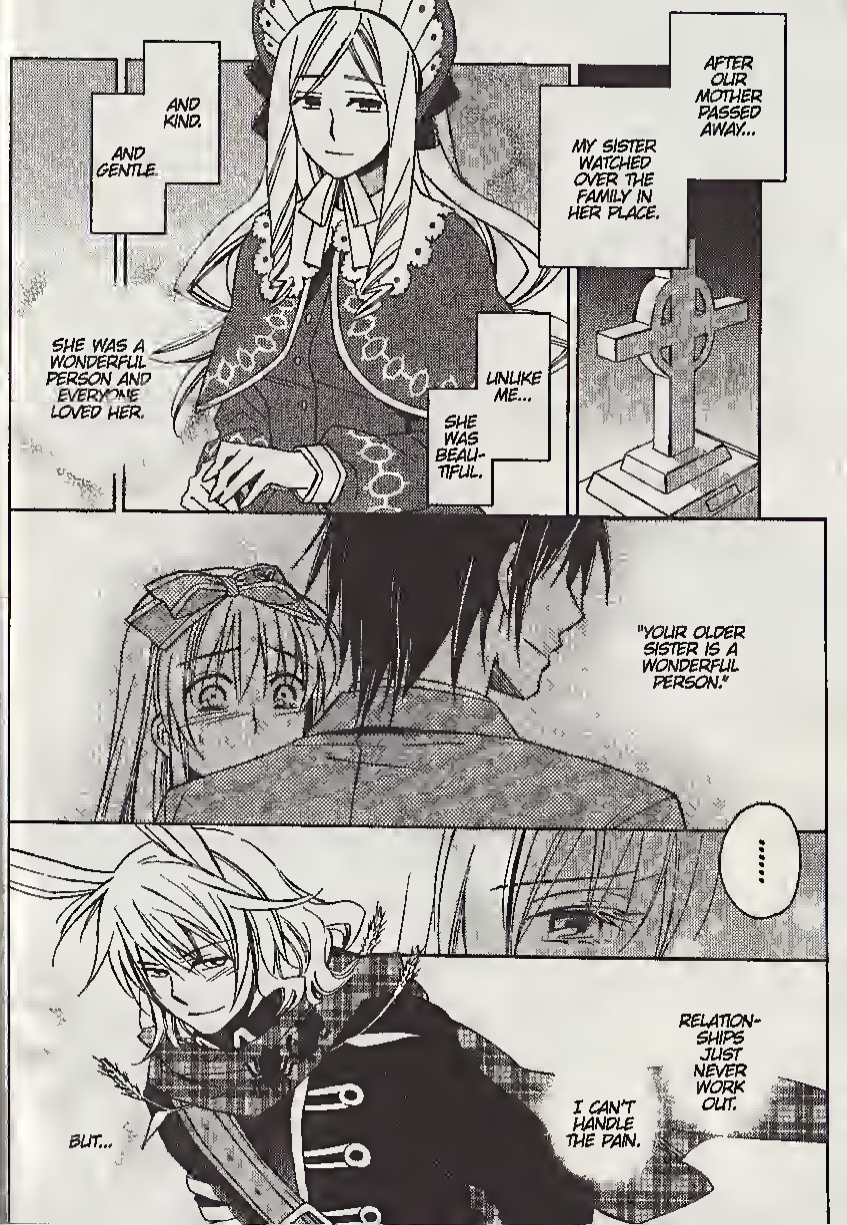
I CAN'T HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU.

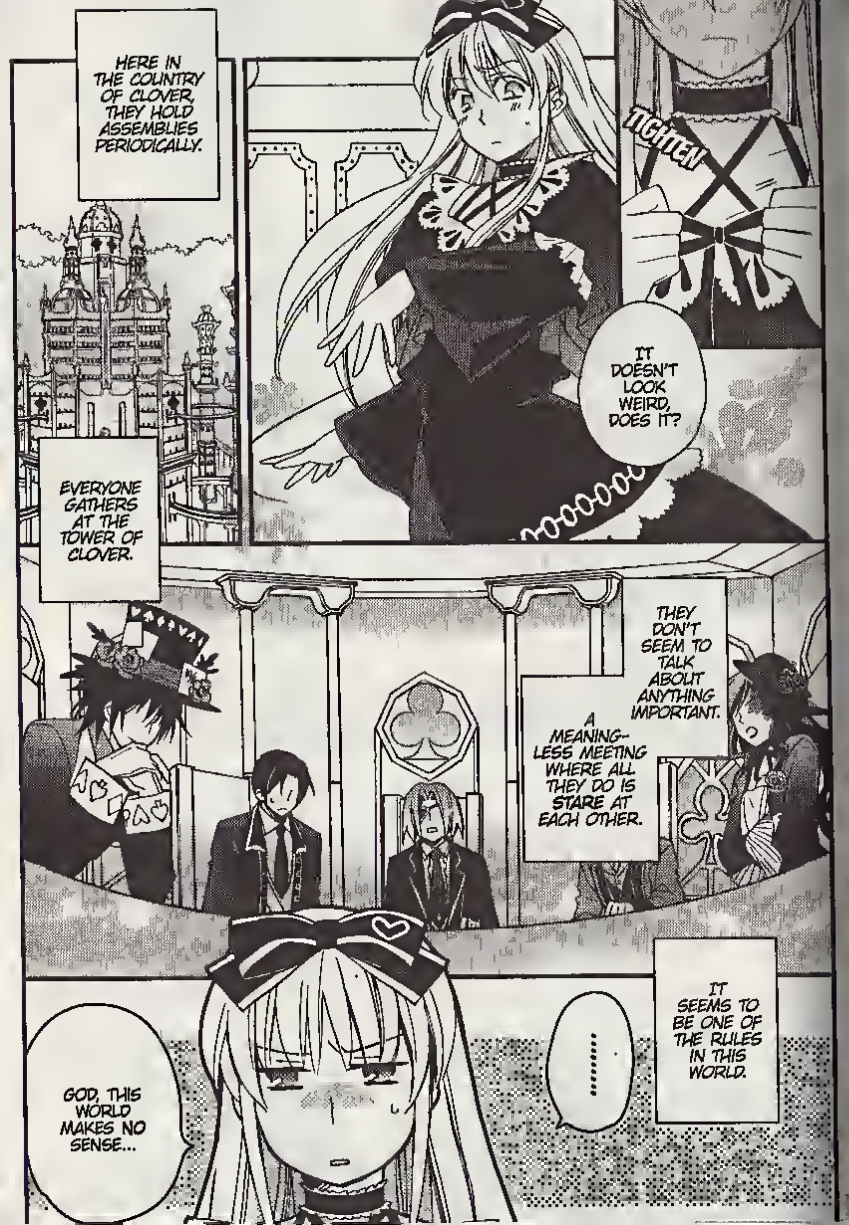

SSSHH...
CHAPTER 2: TEAR-STAINED DILEMMA
SQUEEZE
MY OLDER SISTER..

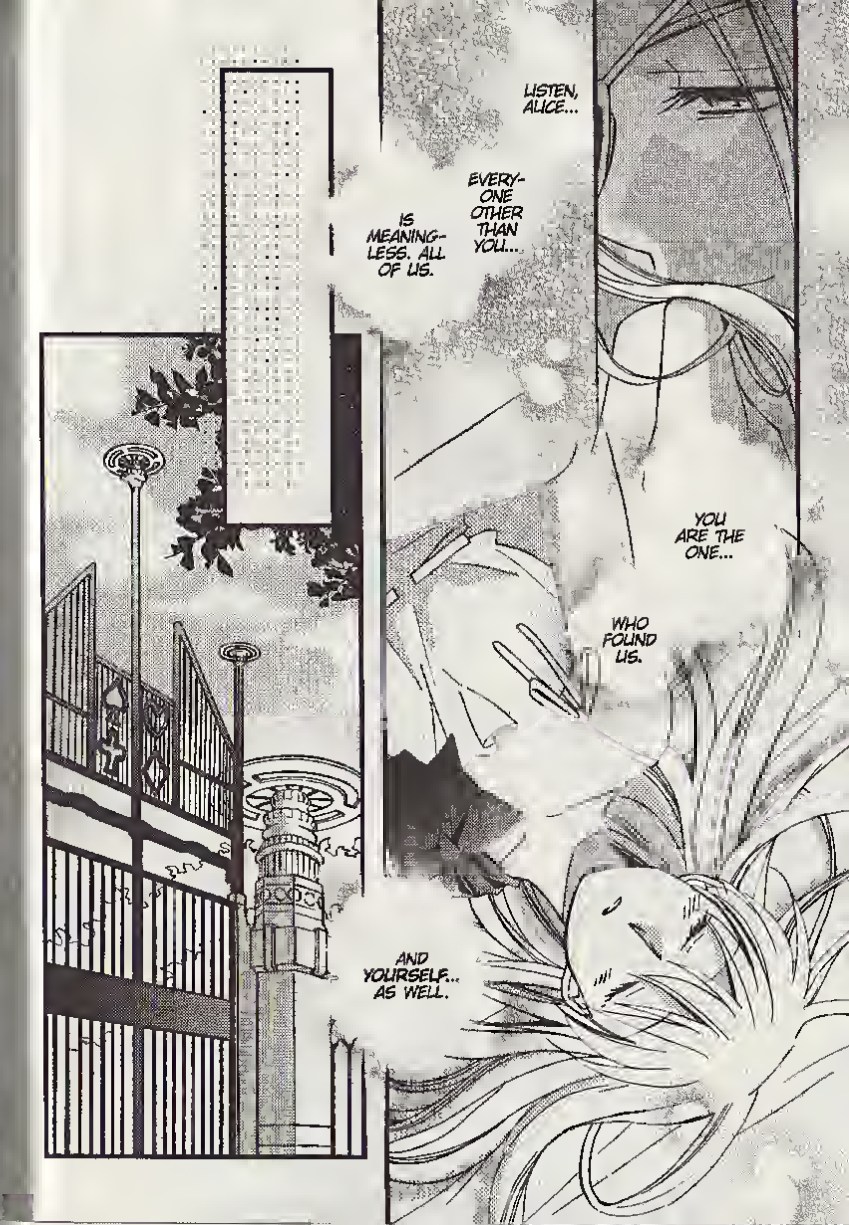
QuinRosesBox

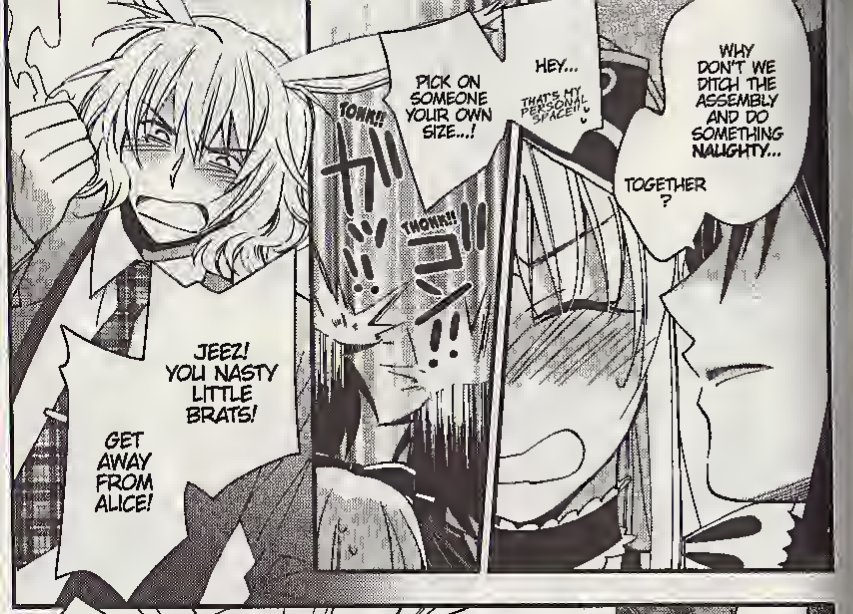

AW, NO TAIL...
WOE...
SERIOUSLY...?


YOUR THOUGHTS ARE ALL JUMBLED.
HMM.
WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF, ALICE?
STROKE..
WIPE THE BLOOD OFF YOUR FACE FIRST.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO TRY TO BE ALL COOL...
I DON'T HAVE TO TRY-- I'M ALWAYS COOL!
I DO.
WHAT YOU TRULY FEAR WILL NEVER HAPPEN HERE.
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT FOR SURE.


AND KIND.
AND GENTLE.
AFTER OUR MOTHER PASSED AWAY...
MY SISTER WATCHED OVER THE FAMILY IN HER PLACE.
SHE WAS A WONDERFUL PERSON AND EVERYONE LOVED HER.
UNLIKE ME...
SHE WAS BEAUTIFUL.
"YOUR OLDER SISTER IS A WONDERFUL PERSON."
.....
RELATIONSHIPS JUST NEVER WORK OUT.
I CAN'T HANDLE THE PAIN.
BUT...


HERE IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER, THEY HOLD ASSEMBLIES PERIODICALLY.
TIGHTEN
IT DOESN'T LOOK WEIRD, DOES IT?
EVERYONE GATHERS AT THE TOWER OF CLOVER.
THEY DON'T SEEM TO TALK ABOUT ANYTHING IMPORTANT.
A MEANING-LESS MEETING WHERE ALL THEY DO IS STARE AT EACH OTHER.
IT SEEMS TO BE ONE OF THE RULES IN THIS WORLD.
.....
GOD, THIS WORLD MAKES NO SENSE...


LISTEN, ALICE...
EVERY-ONE OTHER THAN YOU...
IS MEANING-LESS. ALL OF US.
YOU ARE THE ONE...
WHO FOUND US.
AND YOURSELF... AS WELL.


WHY DON'T WE DITCH THE ASSEMBLY AND DO SOMETHING NAUGHTY...
TOGETHER ?
HEY...
THAT'S MY PERSONAL SPACE!
PICK ON SOMEONE YOUR OWN SIZE...!
THONK!!
THONK!!
JEEZ! YOU NASTY LITTLE BRATS!
GET AWAY FROM ALICE!

ALICE! DID THEY TRY ANY FUNNY BUSINESS ?!
SQUEEZE
GO PLAY WITH YOUR GOOFY MATCHING SUITS, YOU DUMB KIDS!
OWWW!

HUH?
PUSH
I'M NOT GONNA HURT YOU!
YOU'RE JUST AS CLOSE AS THEY WERE!
I'M FINE, BUT...

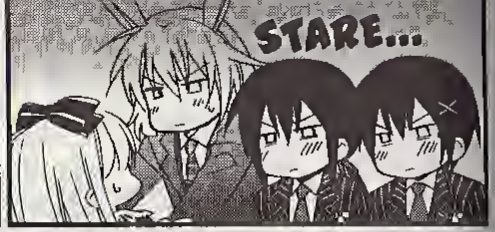
YUP. JUST SHOW UP, AND THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT.
LOOKING FOR MEANING IN THE ASSEMBLY'S A BIG OL' WASTE OF TIME.

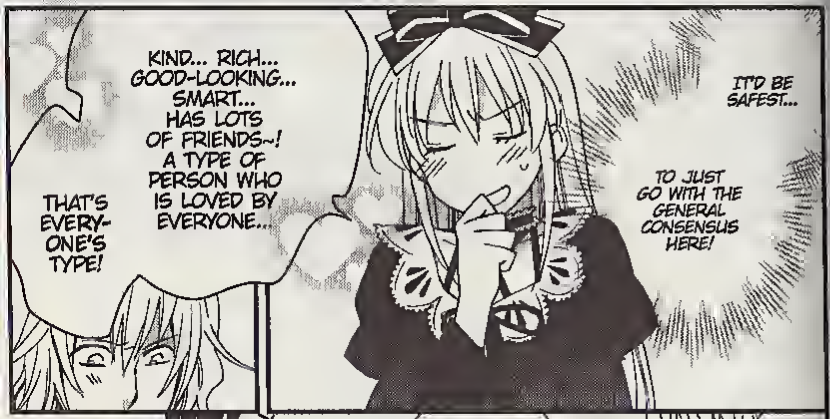
YOU JUST HAVE TO MOVE YOUR CLOCK FORWARD A BIT.
HEY, IT'S EASY TO GROW UP.
YOU TWO WERE ONLY THIS TALL THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU
HUNH... I AGREE ABOUT THE ASSEMBLY...
BUT ARE YOU REALLY DEE AND DUM...?

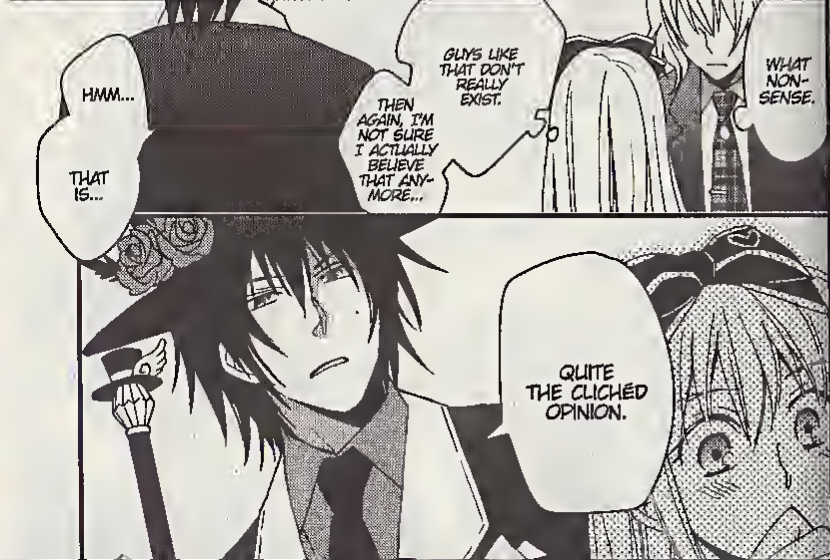
!
YOU GONNA FALL FOR US ALL OVER AGAIN?
SO?
GRASP

BESIDES...
THIS IS MY JOB, YOU KNOW.
SQUEEZE
ALTHOUGH THERE'S A RULE AGAINST FIGHTING DURING ASSEMBLY...
IT'S STILL DANGEROUS OUT THERE.
YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU'LL BE SHOT, CUT DOWN, RUN OVER, OR BURIED.
SO...
IT'S MY JOB TO PROTECT YOU.
GOT IT?
HOW CAN YOU SMILE AND SAY SUCH HORRIBLE THINGS...?
がばっ FWUP
QUIT YER YAPPING, DUMB BUNNY!
BIG SIS WOULDN'T BE HAPPY!
CLANG
BEING PROTECTED BY A GUY LIKE...
YOU!!!
!!
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU TWO?!
THAT'S DANGER-OUS!
CLANG
CLANG
WE'RE JUST SAYING...
DON'T GET ANY WEIRD IDEAS!
THAT'S RIGHT.
FOR ONE THING...
BIG SIS LIKES GUYS WITH SHORT HAIR!

W...
WELL...

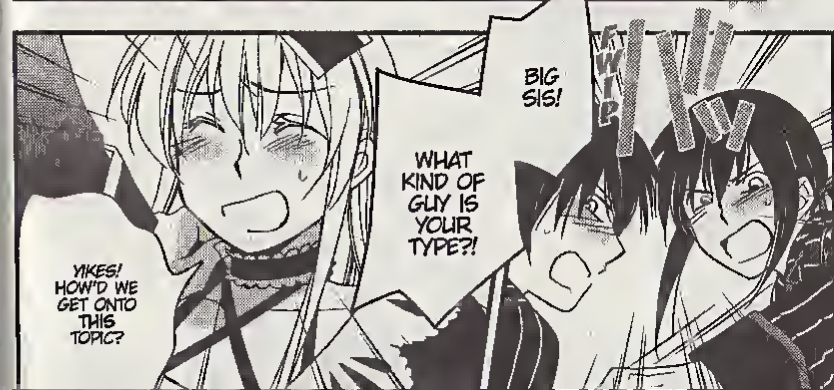

STARE...


KIND... RICH... GOOD-LOOKING... SMART... HAS LOTS OF FRIENDS~! A TYPE OF PERSON WHO IS LOVED BY EVERYONE...
THAT'S EVERY-ONE'S TYPE!
IT'D BE SAFEST...
TO JUST GO WITH THE GENERAL CONSENSUS HERE!


HMM...
THAT IS...
GUYS LIKE THAT DON'T REALLY EXIST.
THEN AGAIN, I'M NOT SURE I ACTUALLY BELIEVE THAT ANY-MORE...
WHAT NON-SENSE.
QUITE THE CLICHÉD OPINION.

HUH?

?
LIKE THAT SHAGGY OL' RABBIT OVER THERE
LONG HAIR'S JUST MESSY.
WHERE'RE YOU GETTIN' THAT?!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, BROTHER ?!
DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH THAT GUY!
HUH?
WHAT ?
IS THAT TRUE, ALICE?!


YIKES! HOW'D WE GET ONTO THIS TOPIC?
WHAT KIND OF GUY IS YOUR TYPE?!
BIG SIS!
TWIP

SMACK
DON'T YOU REMEMBER WE KI--
WHY, ALICE?!
GRAB
WHY?!

SHUT UP!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE BIG SIS' TYPE!
YOU'RE PATHETIC, BUNNY BUTT!
I THINK YOU PROTEST TOO MUCH.
KICK
STOMP
J...
JEEZ!

THAT'S NOT IT AT ALL!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT HIM WRAPPED AROUND YOUR LITTLE FINGER.
HMPH...
OW
GRIN
GRIN

LET'S JUST GO ALREADY!

.....
OF COURSE YOU'D THINK THAT. IT'S JUST THE POPULAR IDEAL.
LET'S HURRY UP AND GO!
THOSE THREE STARTED TO FIGHT WHILE WE WERE WAITING...
BLOOD!
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?!
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU HAD SUCH POOR TASTE.

I KNOW I'M NOT AS COOL AS BLOOD.
LOOK ..
ELLIOT?
SHWP
AND I'M NOT SMART. I'M NOT POPULAR.
WHAT DOES BLOOD HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING?
?

ON THE SURFACE, HE LOOKS A LOT LIKE ELLIOT, BUT...

JERK JERK

.....

TWITCH TWITCH TWITCH

DON'T GET SO CLOSE TO ALICE.

YOU RABBIT-EARED BASTARD.

RUMBLE

YOU DARE TO MOCK MY BODY PARTS?

MY PRISTINE HEAD DOES NOT COMPARE...

TO SCRAGGLY EARS ON AN UNKEMPT HARE.

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

THEY'RE ON OPPOSING SIDES IN THE TERRITORIAL DISPUTES.

OF COURSE THEY'RE NOT FRIENDLY AT ALL...

YOU KNOW...

I NEVER REALIZED RABBITS WERE SO NOISY...

AHH, ALICE!

IT'S BEEN SO LONG, MY PRECIOUS PEARL!

I'VE ACHED TO EMBRACE YOU, MY SWEET GIRL~!

PETER.

THAT'S PETER WHITE.

THE WHITE RABBIT WHO DRAGGED ME INTO THIS WORLD.

HE ALSO HOLDS THE POSITION OF PRIME MINISTER IN HEART CASTLE.

GET YOUR HANDS OFF ALICE!

HEY, BASTARD!

I'LL PUT SOME BULLETS THROUGH YOUR THICK SKULL!

I AM LOYAL, PURE, AND SINCERE-- YOU SHALL SEE!

THAT'S ENOUGH, YOU TWO.

I'M STARTING THE ASSEMBLY.

NIGHT-MARE...

CHATTER

CHATTER

WE KNOW.

IT WAS JUST TALK.

I'M SURE I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT FIGHTS ARE FORBIDDEN DURING ASSEMBLY.

AGH! HEY, KEEP YOUR PAWS TO YOURSELF!

SLEEPING AND EATING WITH DANGEROUS FOLK.

ALICE, I AM WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

HE'S NOT AS HARMLESS AS HE LOOKS...

PETER FORCED A KISS ON ME WHEN WE FIRST MET.

I'LL ALWAYS DEFEND YOU, AND THAT IS NO JOKE.

IF ANY SHOULD DARE TO OFFER YOU HARM...

I'LL SEE TO IT THAT THEY BUY THE FARM.

!

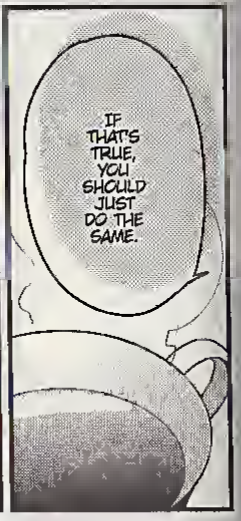
YOU WOUND ME!

A CLINGY AND PARANOID STALKER RABBIT.

MUMBLE

IN FACT, HE'S...

I'M JEALOUS THAT THEY ALL DO WHATEVER THEY WANT.
THEY'RE ALL SO SELF-SERVING.


IF THAT'S TRUE, YOU SHOULD JUST DO THE SAME.

OR IS IT THAT...
NO ONE HERE WOULD LIFT A FINGER AGAINST YOU.
EVEN IF YOU CAUSED TROUBLE...

PHYSICAL FIGHTS ARE FORBIDDEN, BUT TRASH-TALKING IS OKAY.
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THE LOGIC, BUT...
THE PEOPLE WHO COME TO THE ASSEMBLY ARE ALWAYS EAGER TO FIGHT...
JEEZ...
THEY'RE ALL SO HOT-BLOODED.
I... DON'T THINK SO.
IS ANYONE IN THIS WORLD JUST A GOOD PERSON?
THEY'RE ALL TWISTED, AND THEY'VE ALL GOT ISSUES.
THEY'RE NOT ONLY EAGER TO RUN OFF THEIR MOUTHS, BUT TO FIGHT AND TRICK EACH OTHER.
DOMAIN DISPUTES ARE A DAILY OCCURRENCE.

YOU MAKE A CUTE COUPLE.

.....!

YOU'RE SERIOUSLY JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS...

.....

I'M JUST GIVING YOU MY HONEST OPINION.

IT'S LIKE THE WHOLE WORLD WAS MADE FOR ME.

THEY ALL ACCEPT ME JUST THE WAY I AM.

EVERYONE LOVES ME BECAUSE I AM AN OUTSIDER.

THEY'RE ALL SO KIND TO ME.

YOU FEEL YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE A GOOD GIRL?

YES.

YOU'RE A VERY NAUGHTY GIRL.

BUT I CAN'T EVEN DO THAT.

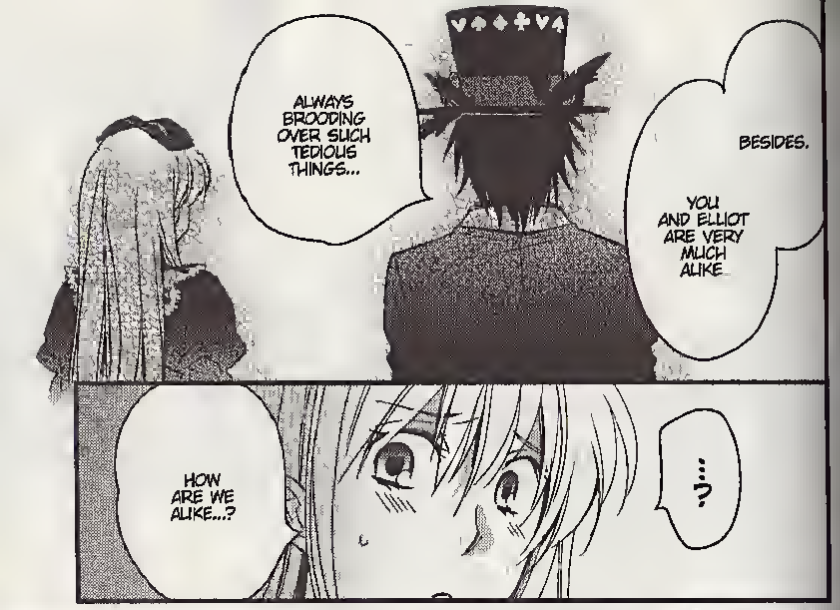
I WANT TO BE A GOOD GIRL...

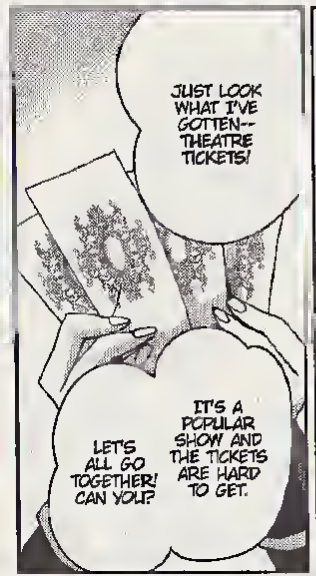
AND HIM, TOO.

HOW-EVER...

PEOPLE LOVE THAT PART OF YOU.

ALL OF US.

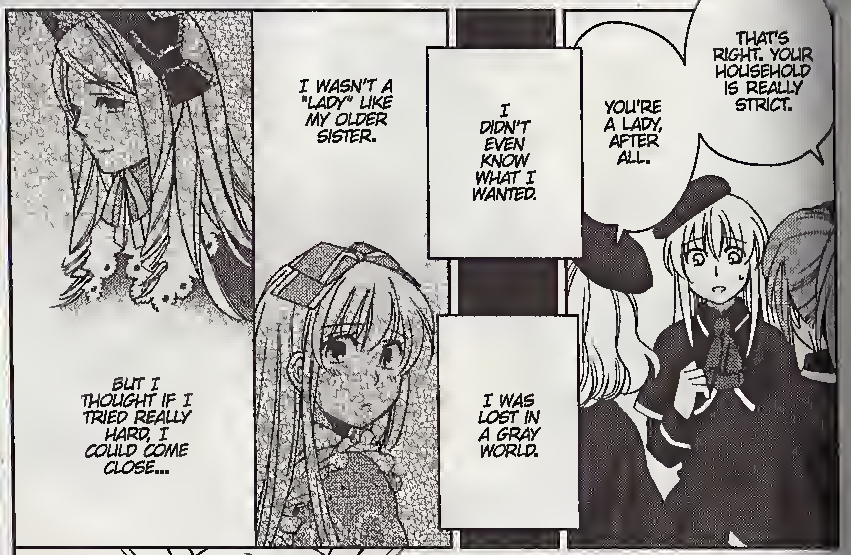

ALWAYS BROODING OVER SUCH TEDIOUS THINGS...
BESIDES.
YOU AND ELLIOT ARE VERY MUCH ALIKE.
HOW ARE WE ALIKE...?
...?


JUST LOOK WHAT I'VE GOTTEN--THEATRE TICKETS!
LET'S ALL GO TOGETHER! CAN YOU?
IT'S A POPULAR SHOW AND THE TICKETS ARE HARD TO GET.

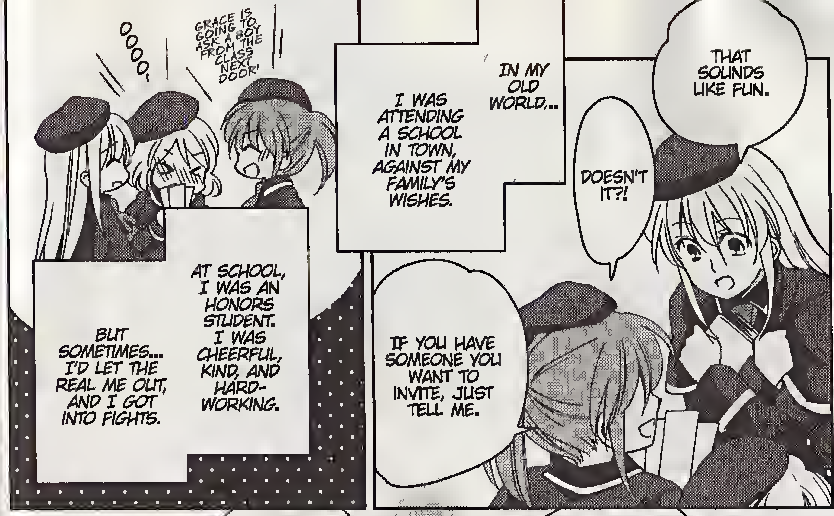
YES? WHAT IS IT?
ALICE, ARE YOU FREE THIS WEEKEND?

I THINK WE'RE ACTUALLY OPPOSITES...
ALICE!
HEY, ALICE!

THE MOST TWISTED PERSON IN THIS WORLD MAY BE ME.
EVEN THOUGH I DON'T USE GUNS...
I'M NOT KIND OR GENTLE AT ALL.
10/6
10/6
FWIP


I WASN'T A "LADY" LIKE MY OLDER SISTER.
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT I WANTED.
YOU'RE A LADY, AFTER ALL..
THAT'S RIGHT. YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS REALLY STRICT.
BUT I THOUGHT IF I TRIED REALLY HARD, I COULD COME CLOSE...
I WAS LOST IN A GRAY WORLD.

MAYBE THEN, THAT ROMANCE WOULDN'T HAVE ENDED SO MISERABLY.
MAYBE I COULD ACCEPT YOUR FEELINGS PROPERLY...
AND NOW...


OOOO.
GRACE IS GOING TO ASK A BOY FROM THE CLASS NEXT DOOR!
I WAS ATTENDING A SCHOOL IN TOWN, AGAINST MY FAMILY'S WISHES.
IN MY OLD WORLD...
THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN.
DOESN'T IT?!
BUT SOMETIMES... I'D LET THE REAL ME OUT, AND I GOT INTO FIGHTS.
AT SCHOOL, I WAS AN HONORS STUDENT. I WAS CHEERFUL, KIND, AND HARD-WORKING.
IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU WANT TO INVITE, JUST TELL ME.

HUH?
UNTIL MORNING?
WE MIGHT EVEN STAY OUT UNTIL MORNING...!
WE'LL GO GRAB A BITE AFTER THE SHOW.
I HAD FRIENDS THAT I GOT ALONG WITH, BUT...
I'D BE LYING IF I SAID I WASN'T PUSHING MYSELF.
THAT'S RIGHT!
IT'S THE PERFECT NIGHT FOR ROMANCE!
I WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL MY FAMILY.
OH.. I CAN'T STAY OUT ALL NIGHT...

GASP!

WHAT?

I FEEL LIKE SOMEONE'S SUMMONING ME...

THIS WAY...

WHO...?

COME HOME.

ALICE.

MAYBE SO...

BUT I DID CHOOSE TO STAY HERE, EVEN WITHOUT HAVING FALLEN IN LOVE.

ALICE.

COME HOME.

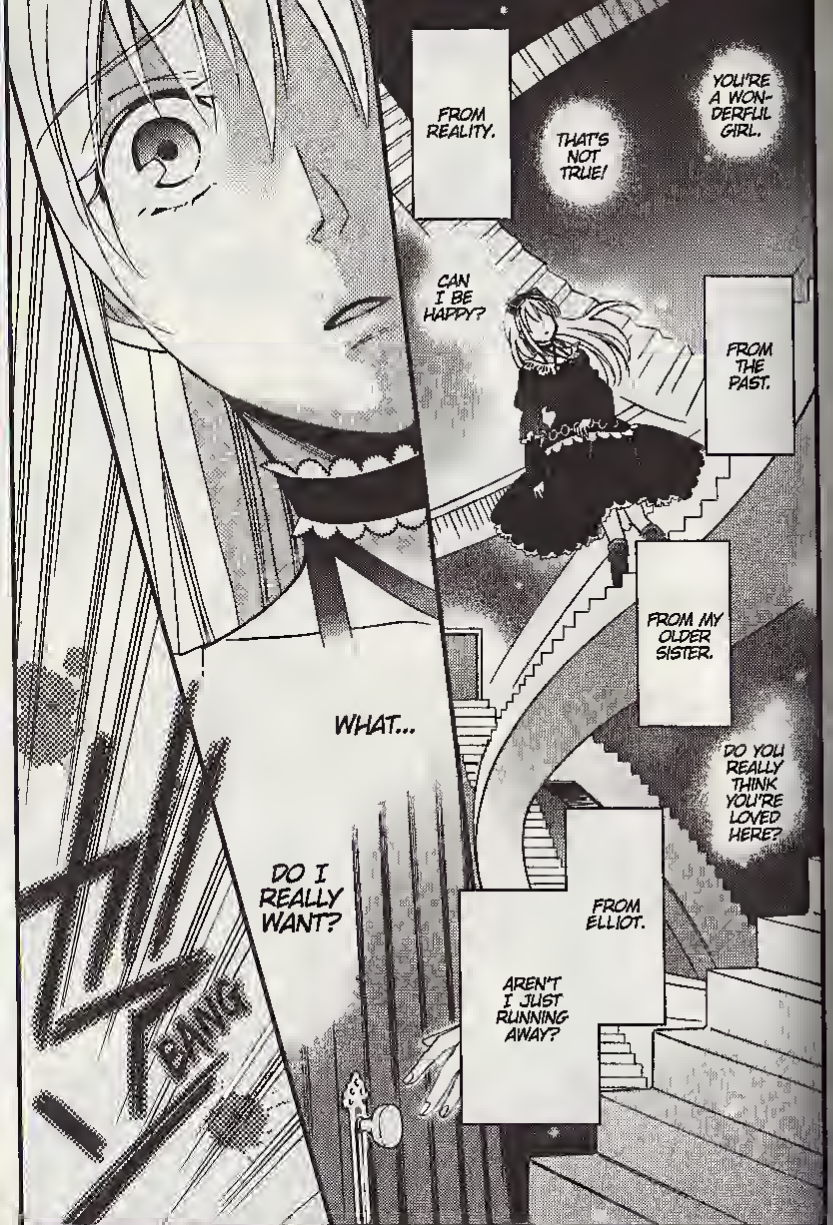
COME THIS WAY.

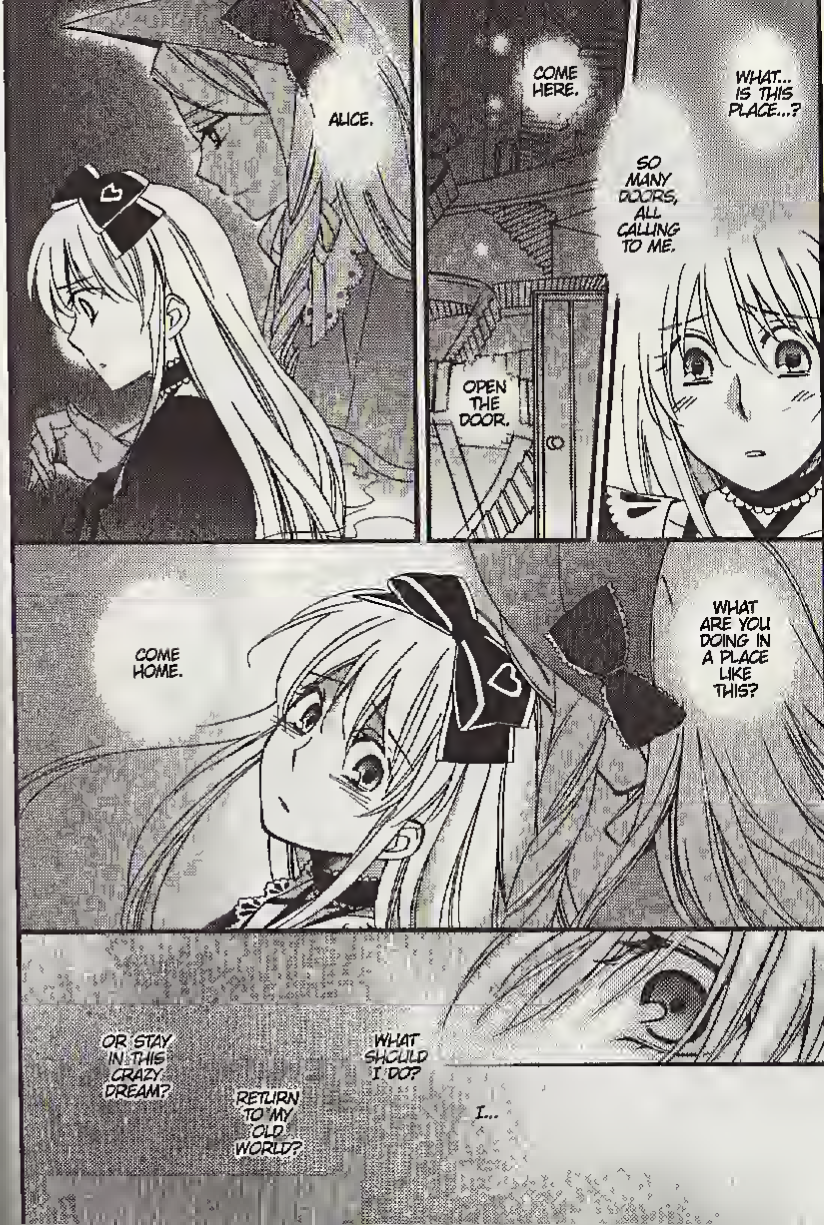
THIS WAY...

I THOUGHT I HEARD HER VOICE...!

SISTER...?

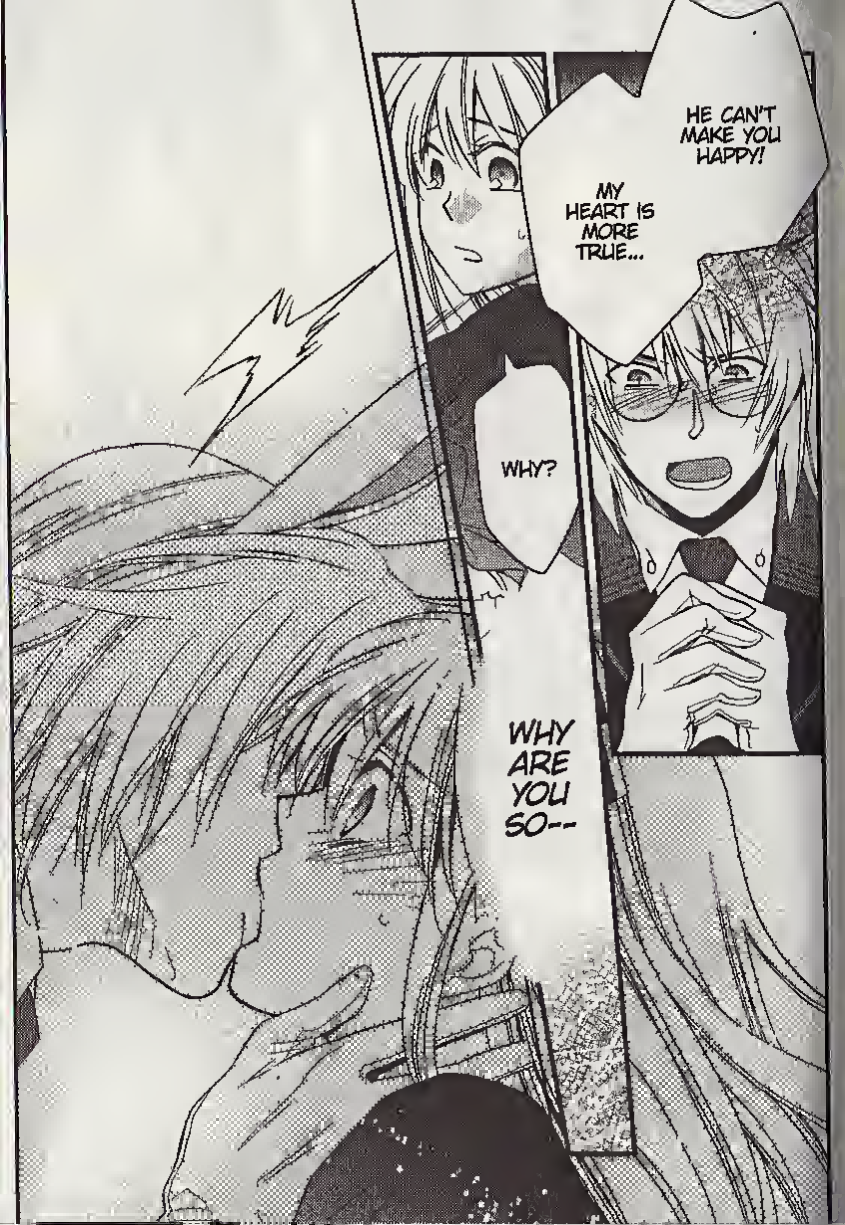
?!


FROM REALITY.
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
YOU'RE A WONDERFUL GIRL.
CAN I BE HAPPY?
FROM THE PAST.
FROM MY OLDER SISTER.
WHAT...
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU'RE LOVED HERE?
DO I REALLY WANT?
FROM ELLIOT.
AREN'T I JUST RUNNING AWAY?
BANG

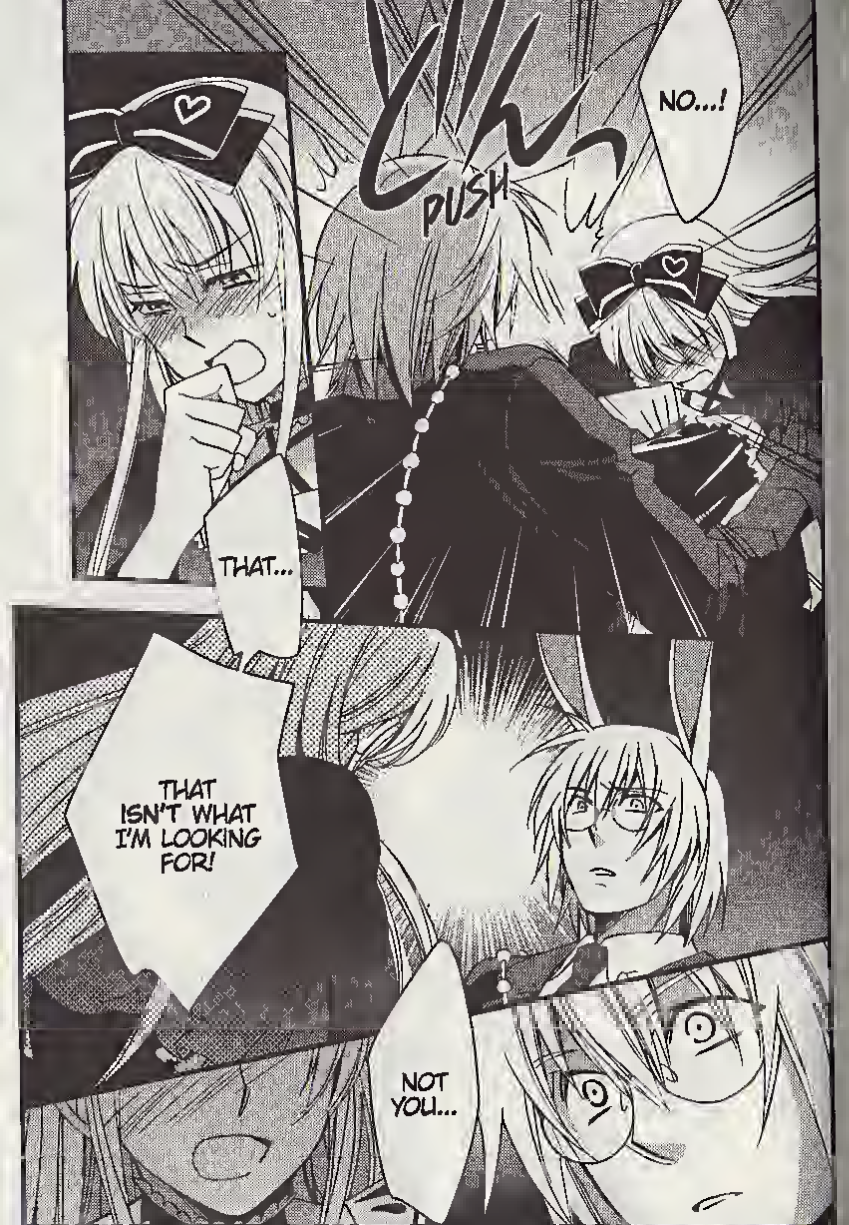

ALICE.
COME HERE.
WHAT... IS THIS PLACE...?
SO MANY DOORS, ALL CALLING TO ME.
OPEN THE DOOR.
COME HOME.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
OR STAY IN THIS CRAZY DREAM?
RETURN TO MY OLD WORLD?
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I...

JUST WHEN...
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT...
YOU HAD STARTED TO BECOME A PART OF THIS WORLD.
PLEASE STAY HERE FOREVER.
I LIVE IN THIS WORLD, AND I WILL ALWAYS TREASURE YOU!
PETER.
I JUST STUMBLED INTO THIS PLACE...
NO NEED TO FREAK OUT LIKE THAT
ALICE.

GASP!
...!
PETER...!
THAT DOOR.
YOU MUSTN'T OPEN IT!
GRAB


HE CAN'T MAKE YOU HAPPY!
MY HEART IS MORE TRUE...
WHY?
WHY ARE YOU SO--

SOMEONE...
WHO TREASURES ME...
IN THIS WORLD...
.....
.....!
WHO ARE YOU THINKING OF?!
SQUEEZE
OUCH...
THAT SCRUFFY HARE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU!


NO...!
PUSH
THAT...
THAT ISN'T WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!
NOT YOU...

JUST YOU.
ONLY YOU.
BLINDLY DEVOTED?
NN...
NN...
NGH!
HOW CAN YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
AREN'T YOU JUST BLIND TO THE TRUTH...?
NO ONE ELSE MATTERS.
EVERYTHING ELSE CAN GO TO HELL.

I WANTED YOU TO BE HAPPY!

JUST...

LET ME GO...!

BANG

SHIT.

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?

.....

NOT ANYONE...

I DON'T WANT TO FALL IN LOVE.

IF THAT'S SO...

WHY ARE YOU MAKING THAT FACE?!

!

PULL

I DIDN'T BRING YOU TO THIS WORLD SO YOU COULD MAKE FACES LIKE THAT!

THAT...

.....

.....

YOU'RE ASKIN' FOR IT!

SORRY, ALICE!

STAY BACK!

WAI--!

BANG

PUSH

!!

WAIT!

BANG

NO!

WHY?!

BANG

ELLIOT...!

I WAS WORRIED SICK. I LOOKED FOR YOU EVERYWHERE, THEN...

THIS IS WHY I HATE RABBITS. THEY JUST RUN AROUND IN A MATING FRENZY, AND DON'T CARE IF ANYONE ELSE GETS IN THE WAY.

BANG

HMPH.

FROM YOU!

THESE WORDS ARE NOT TRUE; I WON'T TAKE THEM...

BANG

CAN YOU AFFORD...

TO LET YOUR GUARD DOWN?!

BANG

BANG

BOTH OF YOU, CHILL OUT!

WHY DID IT COME TO THIS...!

ISN'T THIS AGAINST THE RULES?!

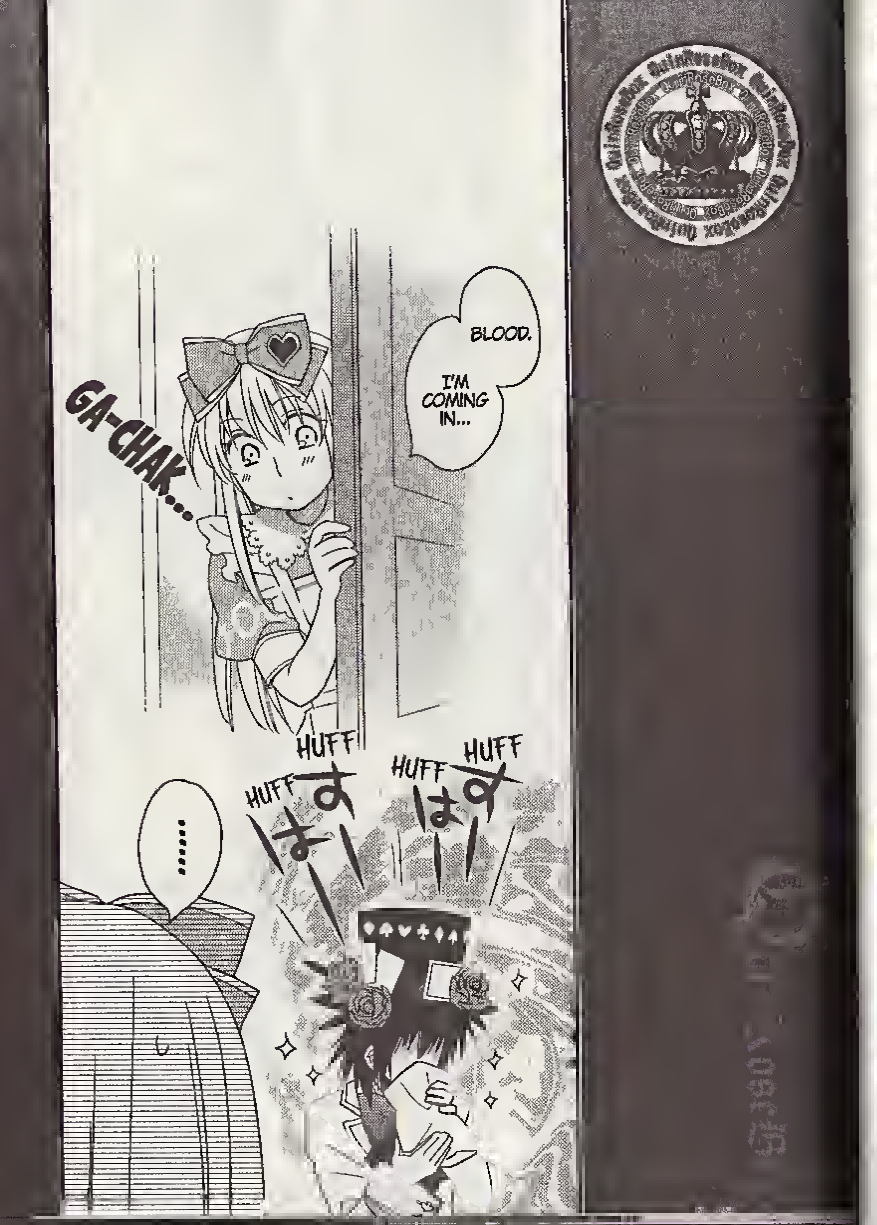
!!

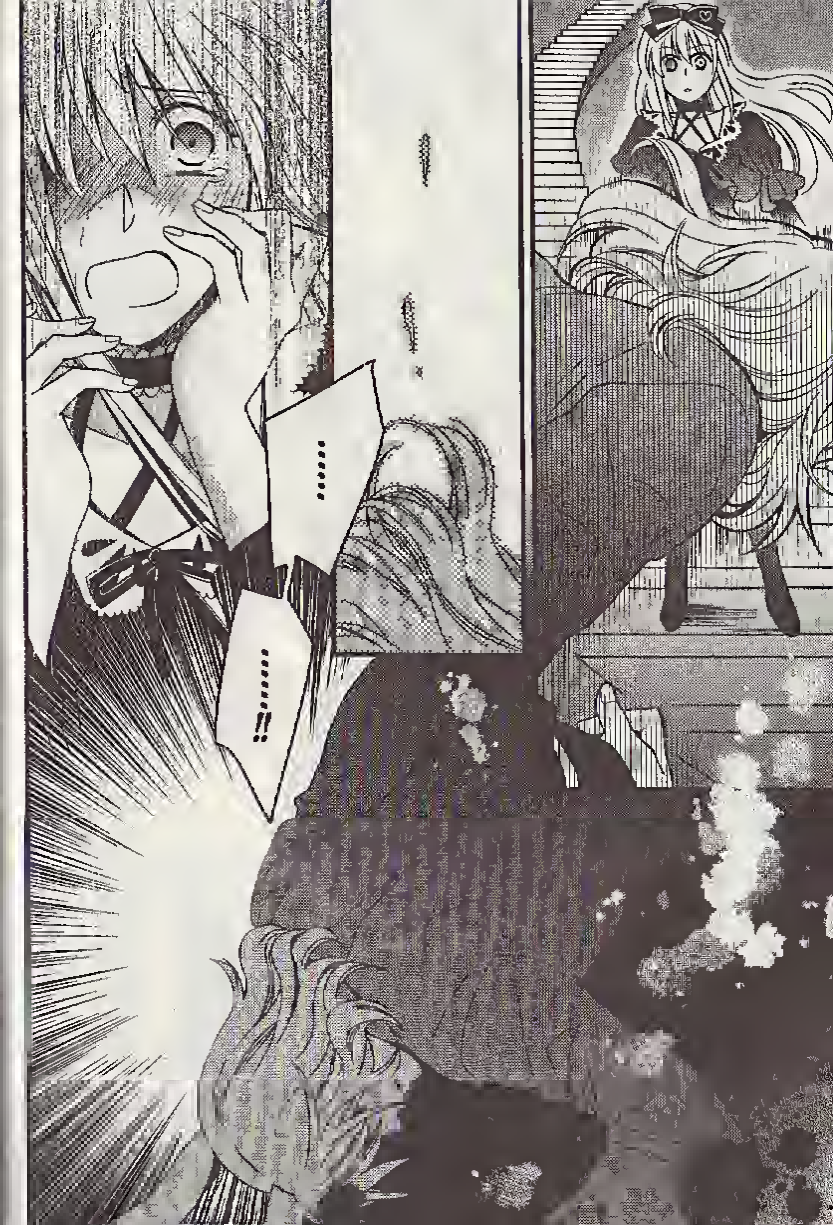
SCRAPE

BANG

STOP IT...!!

ST...


GA-CHAK...
BLOOD.
I'M COMING IN...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
はぁ
はぁ
.....


.....
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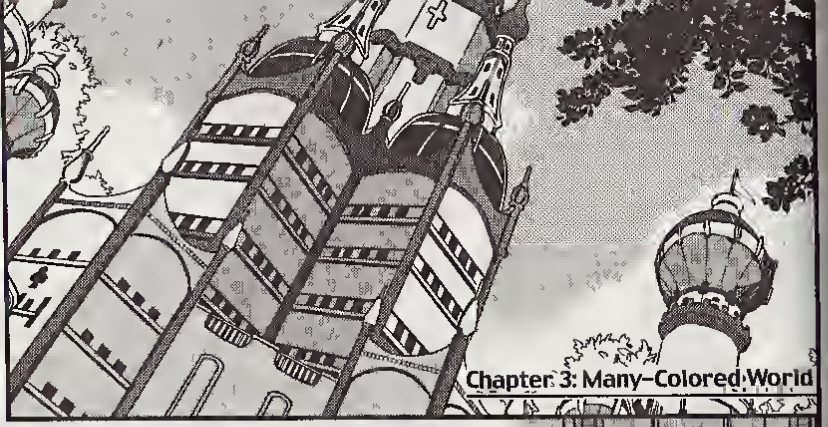
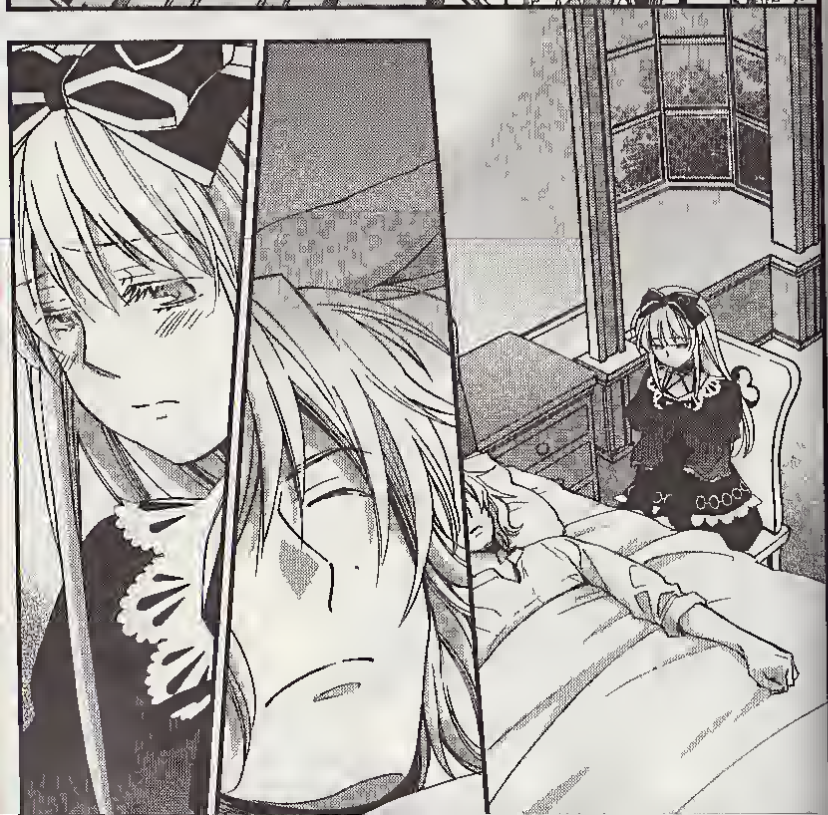
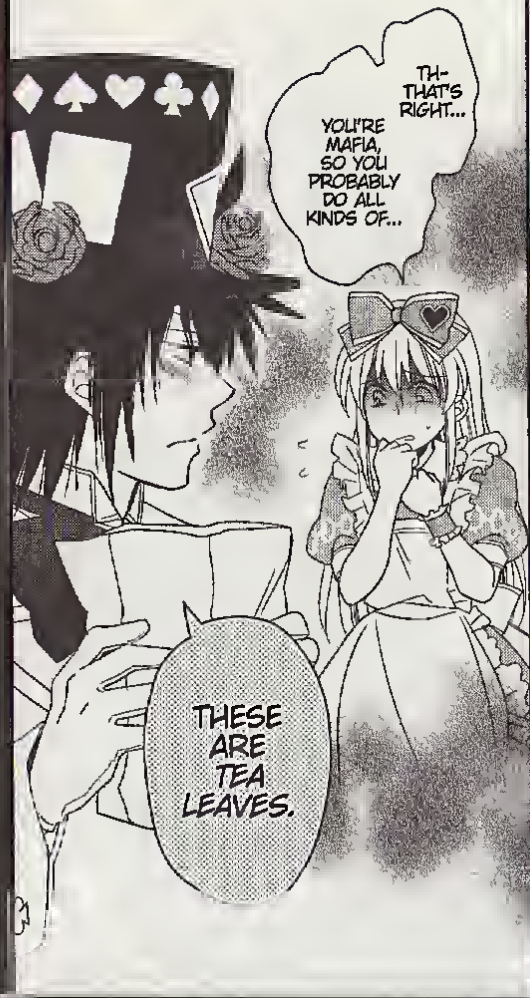
.....!!



Chapter 3: Many-Colored World





BWOOSH
THAT VOICE--
...!
?!!

STEP
STEP...
FILTHY HARE...
YOU'RE CAUGHT IN MY SNARE...
CLICK
I WON'T LET YOU HURT ALICE.
TIME TO SAY GOODBYE.
!!
STOP!
TSK, TSK...
THAT'S AGAINST THE RULES, WHITE RABBIT.

BLOOD!
MY, MY.
SSH...
I CAME BECAUSE I HAD A BAD FEELING, BUT I WASN'T EXPECTING---
HE MAY ACT LIKE A SICKLY FOOL, BUT HE'S STILL THE LEADER OF THIS COUNTRY.
YES, AS YOU SUSPECTED, IT WAS THE DOING OF THAT CATERPILLAR.
THAT WAS...
I'LL BET HE WHISKED THE PRIME MINISTER ALL THE WAY TO THE FOREST.
WHEN SOMEONE BREAKS THE RULES, HE'LL ROUSE HIMSELF AND TAKE ACTION LIKE THIS.

I WON'T LET RULE-BREAKERS GO UNPUNISHED.
ROAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAR
THIS IS MY DOMAIN.
BESIDES, AREN'T YOU ALREADY IN MY DEBT?
I'D APPRECIATE A LITTLE GRATITUDE.
IS THAT... NIGHTMARE...?!

NO.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO HARSH...
BLOOD'S NAILED IT.
ALICE...
I'M SORRY.
I...
I'VE GOT A LOT OF ENEMIES.
ST-STOP...
I SHOULD BE THE ONE APOLOGIZING.
HEY, ELLIOT.
ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE ME LOOK BAD?
UM, BLOOD...?
NOW, THEN...
TONK
SORRY...
BLOOD.
I SCREWED UP.
YOU'RE DAMN RIGHT.
THIS IS YOUR MISTAKE.

ELLIOT...
HE'S UNCONSCIOUS, BUT...
HE IS OUT OF DANGER.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO HATE ME, BUT...
A GUY THAT EVERYONE LOVES...
SEEMS I CAN'T PULL THAT OFF.
THAT'S NOT...

I WON'T LET IT END HERE.
CAN YOU STAND, ELLIOT?
I'LL BE SURE TO MAKE UP FOR MY...
MIS-TAKE...
BLOOD ...

IT'S BECAUSE OF THOSE DUMB THINGS I SAID...

"A GUY THAT EVERYONE LOVES...

"SEEMS I CAN'T PULL THAT OFF."

"KIND... RICH! GOOD-LOOKING... SMART... HAS LOTS OF FRIENDS~!

"A TYPE OF PERSON WHO IS LOVED BY EVERYONE... THAT'S EVERYONE'S TYPE!"

GETTIN' ICED SO EASILY'D SHAME THE HATTER FAMILY NAME.

BOY, WHAT A DUMB RABBIT. HE LET HIS GUARD DOWN.

I SEE...

HIS INJURIES WILL HEAL AFTER SOME TIME PERIODS.

THAT'S RIGHT. FOR ONE THING, THAT MUSCLE-BOUND GOON'S TOO TOUGH TO DIE THAT EASY.

AW, DON'T FRET, BIG SIS.

EVERYONE WANTS THE ONE THEY LIKE TO APPROVE OF THEM, AND TO LIKE THEM IN RETURN.

I KNOW, MORE THAN ANYONE, THE TERRIFYING FEELING OF REJECTION.

AND I ENDED UP HURTING YOU THE EXACT SAME WAY.

THAT'S NOT IT.

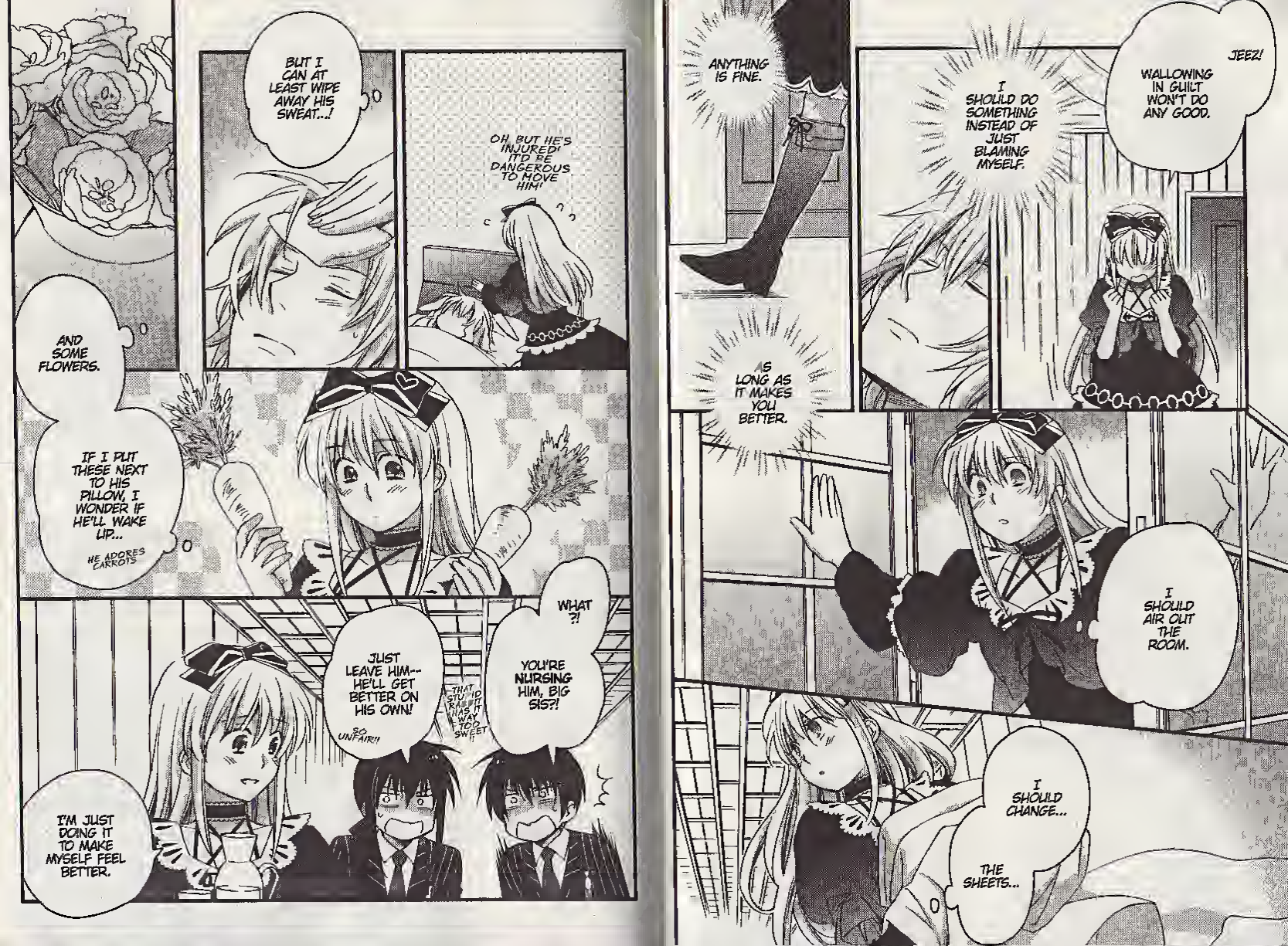
WE WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH COOLER, BIG SIS...

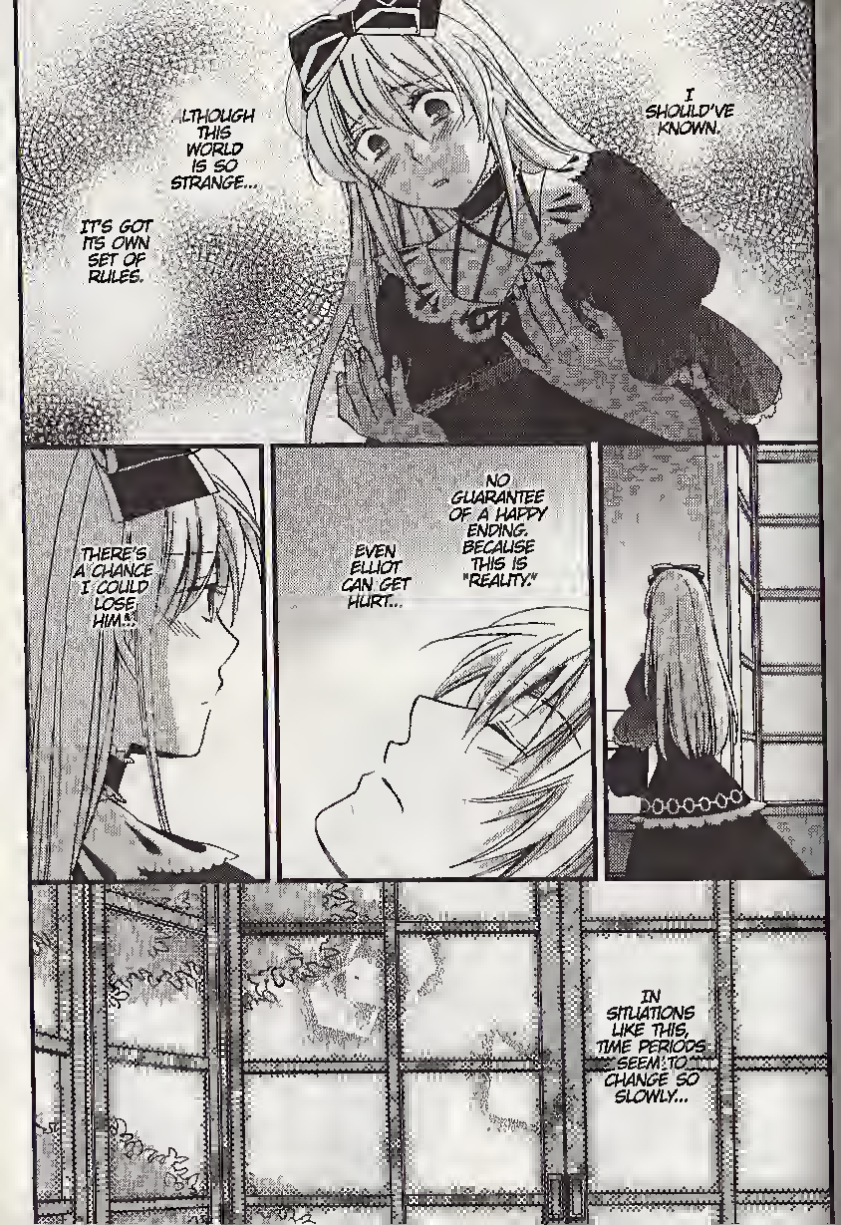
ELLIOT HESITATED, AND DIDN'T PULL THE TRIGGER WHEN HE HAD THE CHANCE.

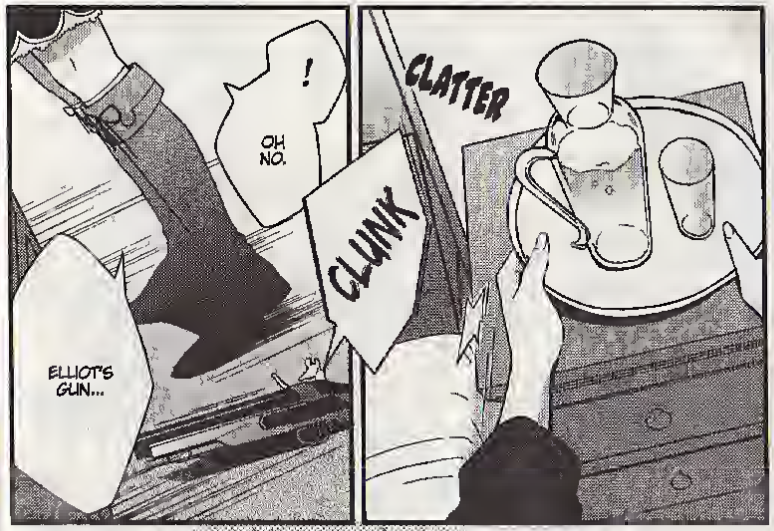
STOP IT...!!

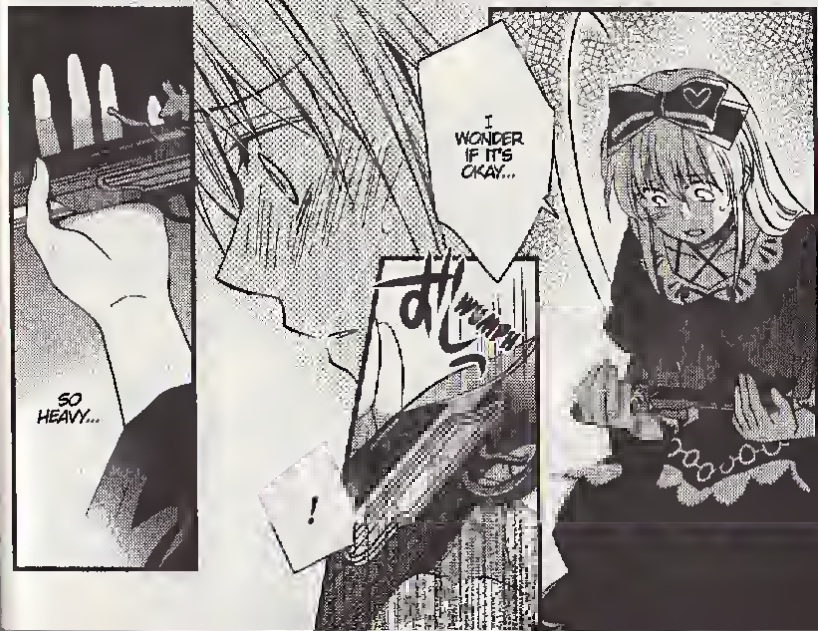
ST...

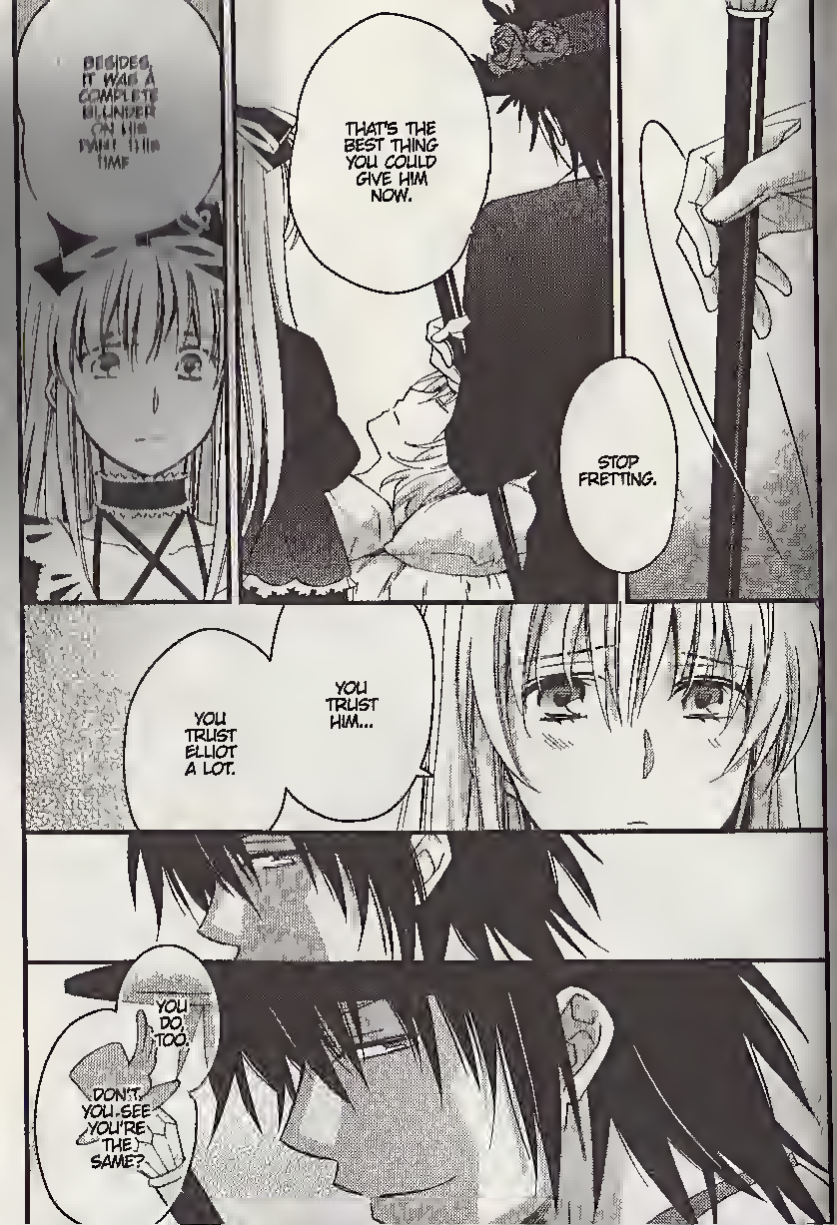
STILL...
I HURT YOU...
YOUR PRIDE...
AND YOUR FEELINGS.
UNTIL YOUR WOUNDS HEAL...
I'LL STAY BY YOUR SIDE.
TWITCH...
!!
ELLIOT ?!
.....
SMACK

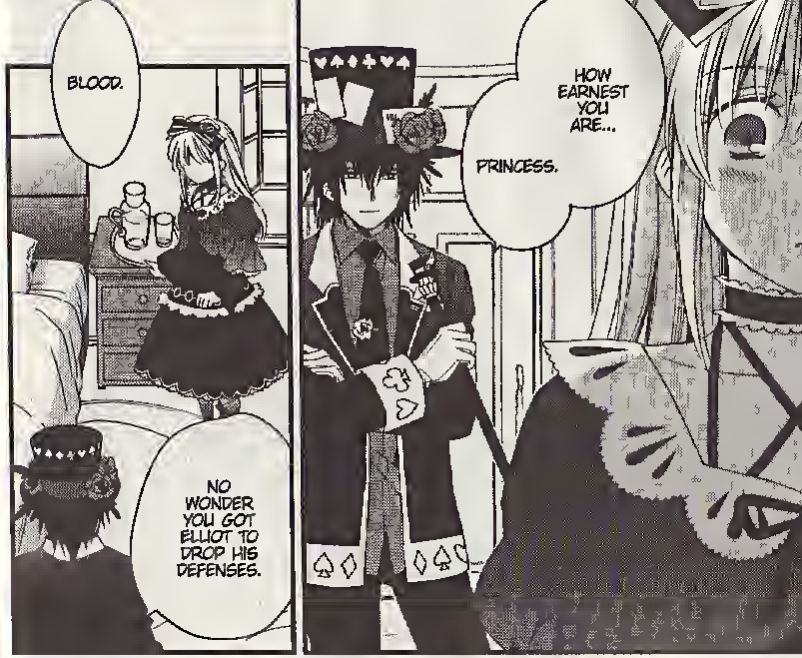

JEEZ!
WALLOWING IN GUILT WON'T DO ANY GOOD.
I SHOULD DO SOMETHING INSTEAD OF JUST BLAMING MYSELF.
ANYTHING IS FINE.
AS LONG AS IT MAKES YOU BETTER.
I SHOULD AIR OUT THE ROOM.
I SHOULD CHANGE...
THE SHEETS...
OH, BUT HE'S INJURED! IT'D BE DANGEROUS TO MOVE HIM!
BUT I CAN AT LEAST WIPE AWAY HIS SWEAT...!
AND SOME FLOWERS.
IF I PUT THESE NEXT TO HIS PILLOW, I WONDER IF HE'LL WAKE UP...
HE ADORES CARROTS
WHAT ?!
YOU'RE NURSING HIM, BIG SIS?!
THAT STUPID RABBIT HAS IT WAY TOO SWEET!!
JUST LEAVE HIM-- HE'LL GET BETTER ON HIS OWN!
SO UNFAIR!!
I'M JUST DOING IT TO MAKE MYSELF FEEL BETTER.

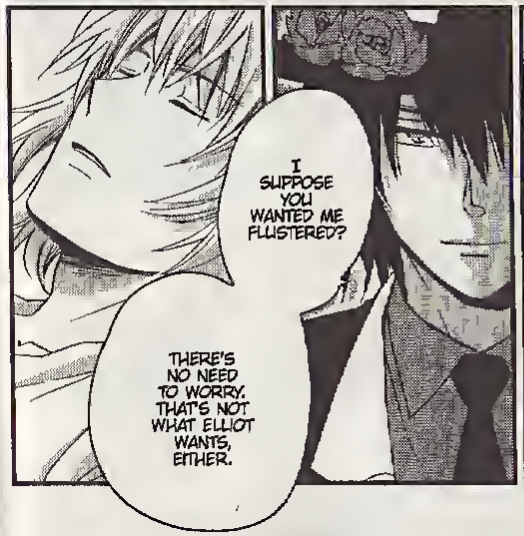

ALTHOUGH THIS WORLD IS SO STRANGE...
IT'S GOT ITS OWN SET OF RULES.
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN.
THERE'S A CHANCE I COULD LOSE HIM...
EVEN ELLIOT CAN GET HURT...
NO GUARANTEE OF A HAPPY ENDING. BECAUSE THIS IS "REALITY."
IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS, TIME PERIODS SEEM TO CHANGE SO SLOWLY...


!
OH NO.
ELLIOT'S GUN...
CLUNK
CLATTER


SO HEAVY...
I WONDER IF IT'S OKAY...
!


BESIDES, IT WAS A COMPLETE BLUNDER ON HIS PART THIS TIME.
THAT'S THE BEST THING YOU COULD GIVE HIM NOW.
STOP FRETTING.
YOU TRUST ELLIOT A LOT.
YOU TRUST HIM...
YOU DO, TOO.
DON'T YOU SEE YOU'RE THE SAME?

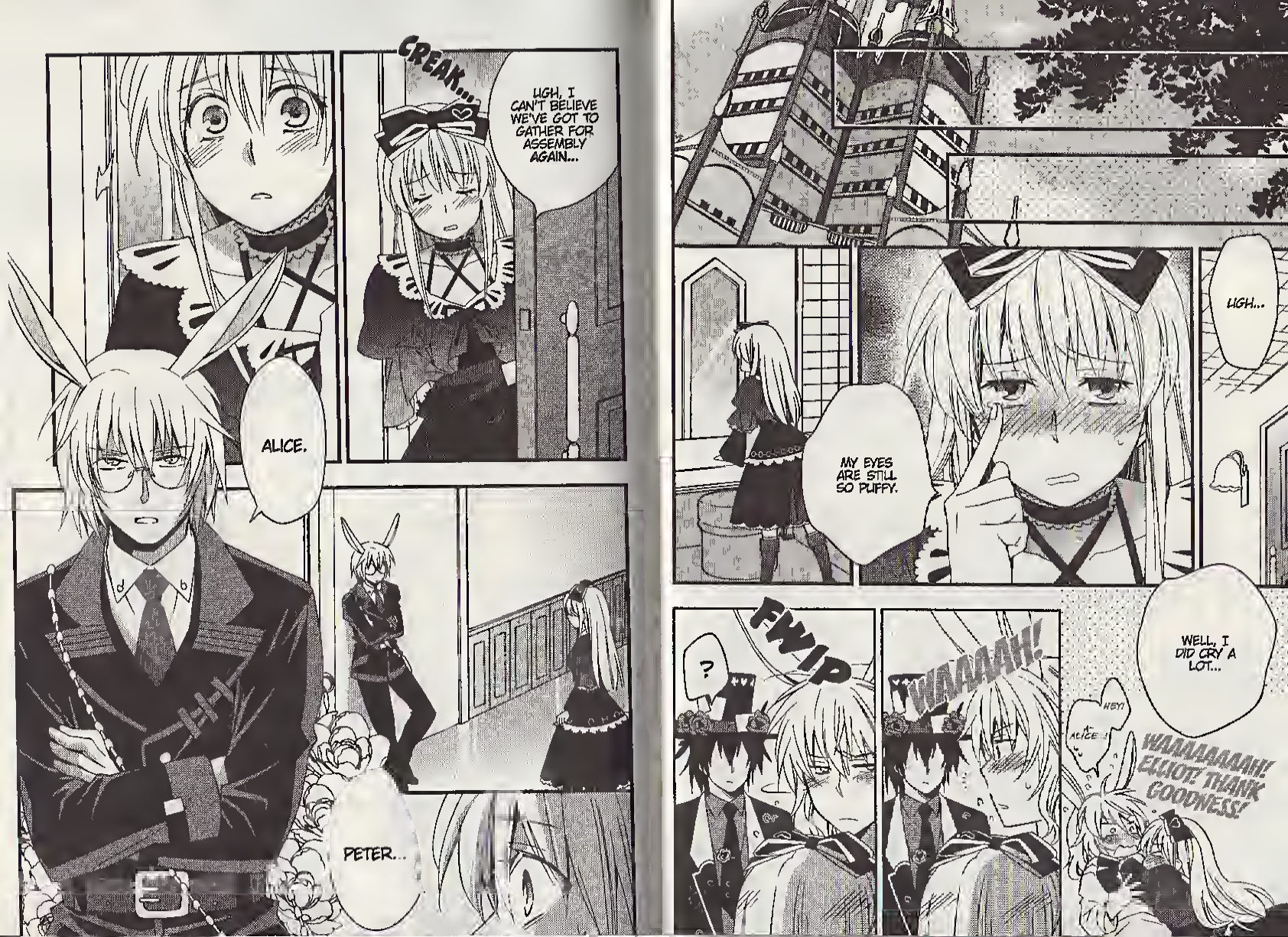

BLOOD.
NO WONDER YOU GOT ELLIOT TO DROP HIS DEFENSES.
HOW EARNEST YOU ARE...
PRINCESS.


I SUPPOSE YOU WANTED ME FLUSTERED?
THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY. THAT'S NOT WHAT ELLIOT WANTS, EITHER.

YOU'RE AWFULLY COOL FOR SOMEONE WHOSE RIGHT-HAND MAN IS DOWN.
ENOUGH WITH THE SARCASM.

A-ALICE...?
.....
RISE...
NN...
.....!
GASP

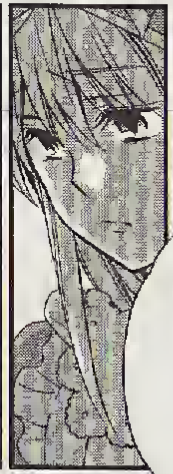
GOING AGAINST YOUR TRUE FEELINGS IS SO TIRESOME.
TAP
SHMP...
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOUR TRUE FEELINGS.

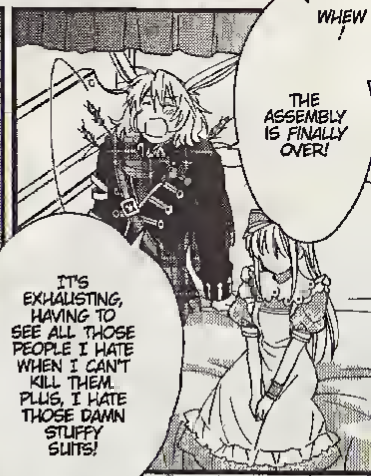

CREAK...
UGH, I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'VE GOT TO GATHER FOR ASSEMBLY AGAIN...
ALICE.
PETER...
UGH...
MY EYES ARE STILL SO PUFFY.
FWIP
?
WAAAAAH!
WELL, I DID CRY A LOT...
HEY!
ALICE!
WAAAAAAAAH! ELLIOT! THANK GOODNESS!

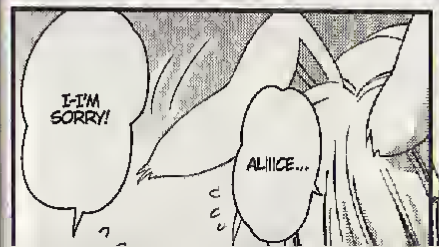
IT'S ALL RIGHT...! I WON'T HURT YOU.
HEY, THAT'S A GUY'S LINE!
SPROING
FIDGET
DROOP...
.....
ABOUT WHAT?
I'M THE ONE WHO IS SORRY.
ELLIOT.
I'M ALWAYS...
I'M SORRY...
RUNNING AWAY, UNSURE OF MYSELF...

THERE IS...
SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU.

BUT I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY SO MUCH...


IT'S EXHAUSTING, HAVING TO SEE ALL THOSE PEOPLE I HATE WHEN I CAN'T KILL THEM. PLUS, I HATE THOSE DAMN STUFFY SUITS!


WHEW!
THE ASSEMBLY IS FINALLY OVER!


I-I'M SORRY!
AL!!!CE...

UM, I KINDA SPACED OUT THERE FOR A BIT!
HEY, ALICE.
YOU LISTENING?

HE LOOKS COOL AND HE'S SMART.

AND, UNLIKE ME, HE'S REALLY POPULAR!

HE'S A REALLY GREAT GUY, SO THOUGHTFUL AND KIND.

I... I REALLY LOOK UP TO BLOOD A LOT.

HE'S...

ELLIOT VISION

I SEE

BUT, I... EVEN IF IT'S BLOOD.

I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO TAKE YOU AWAY FROM ME.

THE TYPE OF GUY YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT, THAT YOU SAID YOU LIKED.

YOU MEANT BLOOD, DIDN'T YOU?

.....

HM?

YOU...

THAT IS...

UH...

UM, LOOK. TELL ME THE TRUTH.

ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH BLOOD?

ARE YOU SAYING YOU LIKE THAT DAMNED BUNNY?!

!!

IT WAS JUST A HYPO-THETICAL!

N-NO, NO!

I COULD SEE YOU THINKING PETER, BUT BLOOD...?!

WHATEVER GAVE YOU THAT IDEA?!

HUH?!

I HATE THIS.

EVEN IF YOU FALL SHORT OF YOUR IDEAL...

EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT PERFECT.

I THINK... THAT IT'S FINE...

BUT I THINK...

IT'S LIKE... I'M SAYING THIS TO MYSELF.

.....

AS LONG AS YOU ARE YOU.

THAT'S ENOUGH.

I DON'T HAVE MUCH SELF-CONFIDENCE.

AND I STILL HAVE MY DOUBTS.

THIS IS THE ANSWER THAT I HAD ALWAYS WANTED.

I CAN'T BE LIKE BLOOD.

I KNOW THAT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT'S WHAT YOU'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT.

ELLIOT...

.....

"YOU AND ELLIOT ARE VERY MUCH ALIKE."

AND NOW, YOU'RE TALKING LIKE ME!

SWIPE!

PFFT!

AHH...

HOW LONG IS DAY GOING TO CONTINUE?

NIGHT WOULD BE BETTER... OR EVEN EVENING.

BUT IT'S SO NICE AND WARM.

THE SUN IS IN THE WAY.

A...

ALICE...

BUT...

I EVEN MADE YOU WORRY... HOW PATHETIC.

AND I MADE A MISTAKE THAT WAS REALLY DUMB FOR ME.

LATELY, I HAVEN'T HAD ANY CONFI-DENCE...

YES... PROBA-BLY...

AM I GOOD ENOUGH THE WAY I AM NOW?!

REALLY?! FOR REAL?!

THANK GOOD-NESS--!!

ALIGH! ENOUGH GORY TALK!

SO NOT WHAT I WANT!!

OH, BUT FIRST I SHOULD SHOOT BOTH OF HIS ARMS SO HE CAN'T STRIKE BACK!

THE NEXT TIME I SEE HIM, I'LL SHOOT HIM RIGHT IN THE HEAD-- THAT'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM.

I WON'T LOSE TO THAT DAMNED WHITE RABBIT ANYMORE.

BUT WHAT YOU JUST SAID CHANGES EVERYTHING!

FROM NOW ON...

AND WE'RE BECOMING ONE WITH THIS WORLD.

WE'RE CONNECTED BY A KISS.

AHH...

YOUR HAIR IS BLENDING IN WITH THE DUSK.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON...

I ALWAYS SPENT THAT TIME WITH MY OLDER SISTER.

GENTLE.

AND UNPRETENTIOUS.

BATHED IN A NOSTALGIC WARMTH.

IT WAS AN UNFORGETTABLE TIME THAT I TREASURED.

MEMORIES ARE ALWAYS ROMANTICIZED.

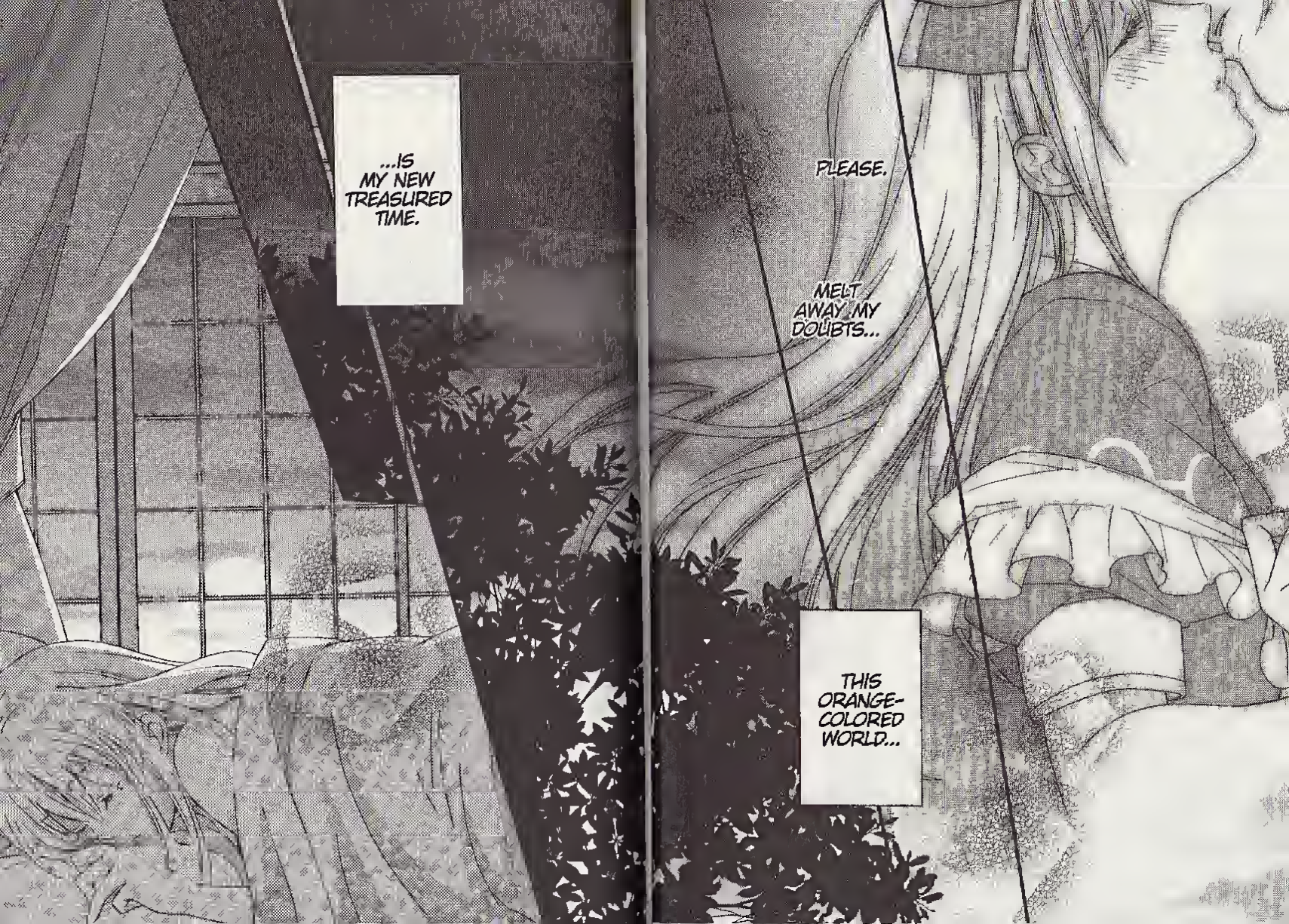
SUNLIGHT ONLY MAKES YOU DIZZY.

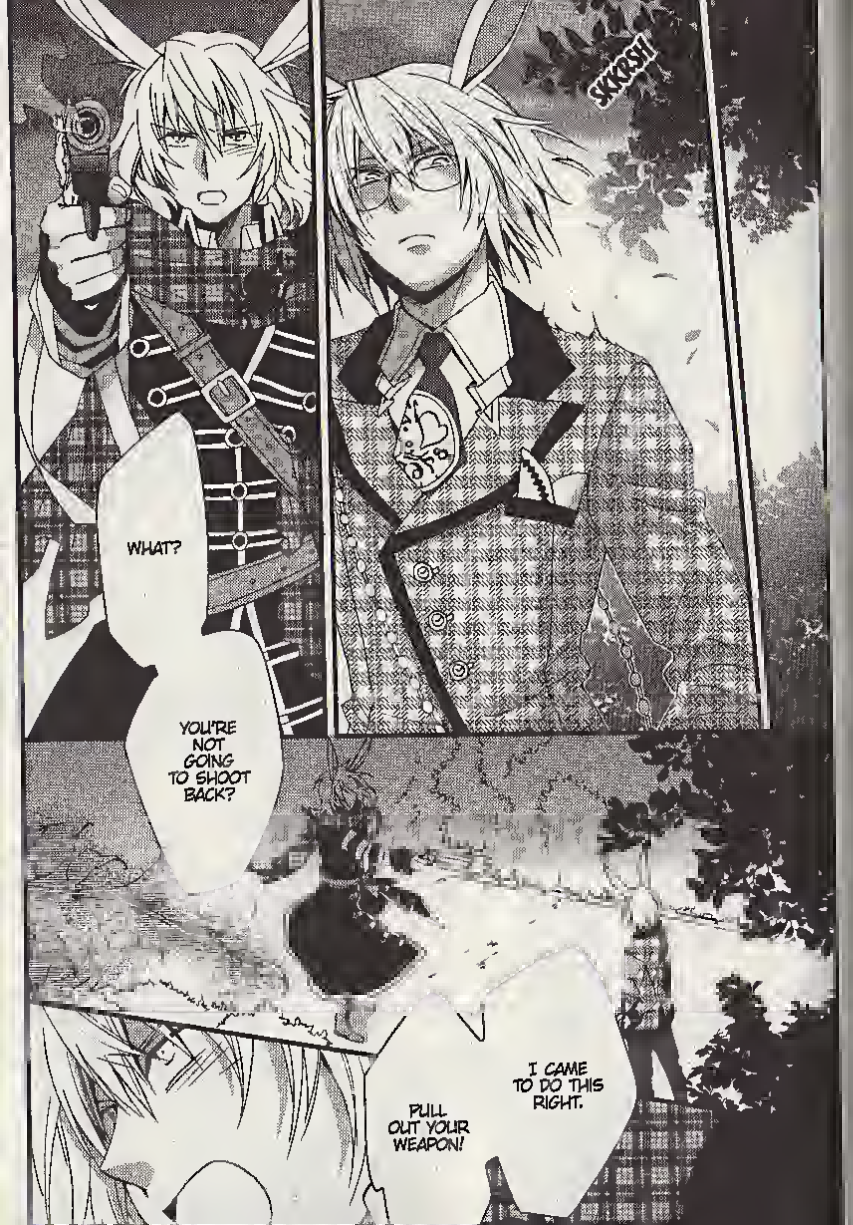
WHAT YOU'RE SAYING MAKES LOGICAL SENSE...

BUT I THINK YOU'RE JUST RATIONALIZING YOUR HATRED OF DAYLIGHT.

AHH YOU ARE IRRITATINGLY PERCEPTIVE. GOOD THING YOU'RE SO CUTE.

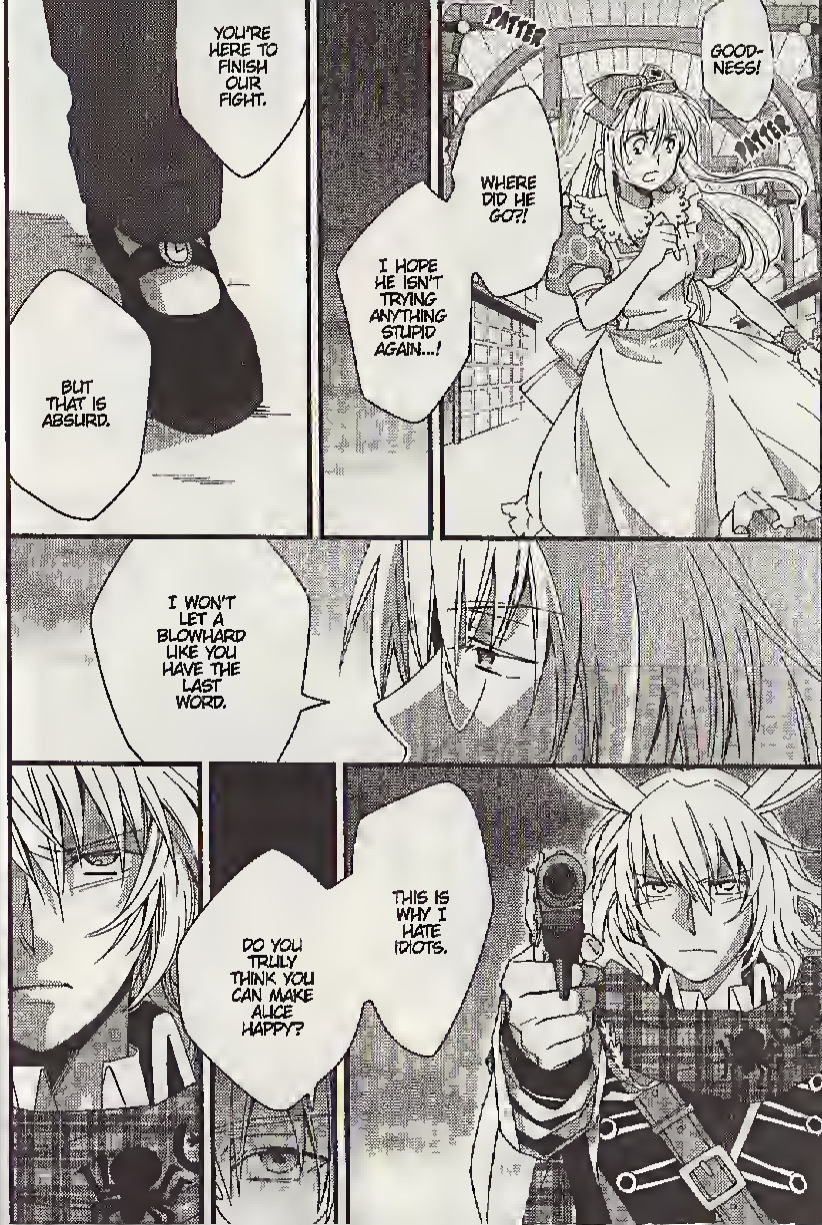
BUT...


...IS MY NEW TREASURED TIME.
PLEASE.
MELT AWAY MY DOUBTS...
THIS ORANGE-COLORED WORLD...


SKKRSH
WHAT?
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SHOOT BACK?
I CAME TO DO THIS RIGHT.
PULL OUT YOUR WEAPON!

BANG
BANG
NN...
ELLIOT?!
ELLIOT...?
WHAT... WAS THAT SOUND?

RUSTLE...
ELLIOT...


YOU'RE HERE TO FINISH OUR FIGHT.
BUT THAT IS ABSURD.
PATTER
GOOD-NESS!
PATTER
WHERE DID HE GO?!
I HOPE HE ISN'T TRYING ANYTHING STUPID AGAIN...!
I WON'T LET A BLOWHARD LIKE YOU HAVE THE LAST WORD.
DO YOU TRULY THINK YOU CAN MAKE ALICE HAPPY?
THIS IS WHY I HATE IDIOTS.

ARE YOU THAT SCARED OF ME?

OF COURSE I AM!

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU DID?

I'M SCARED.

BUT...

PETER FORCED A KISS ON ME, AND HE HURT ELLIOT.

PLEASE DON'T CRY...

I'M BEGGING YOU.

THERE IS...

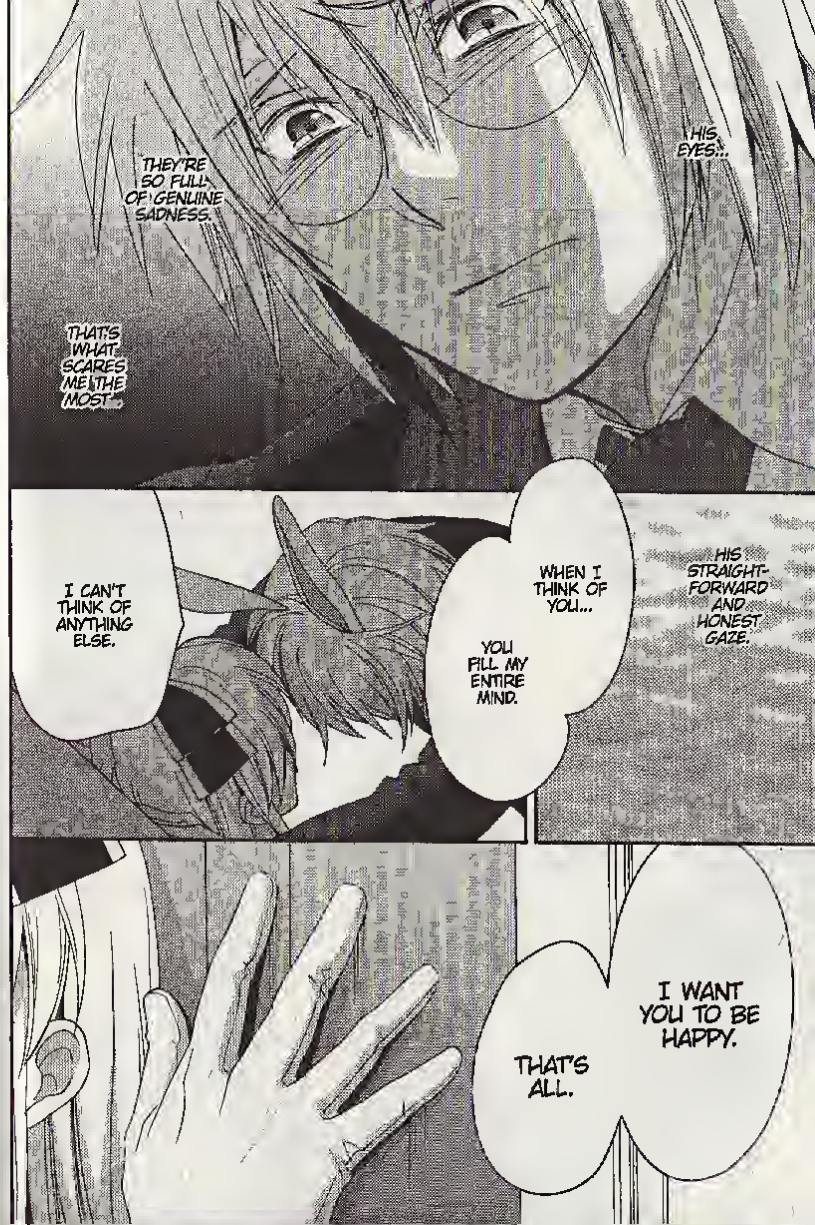
SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU.

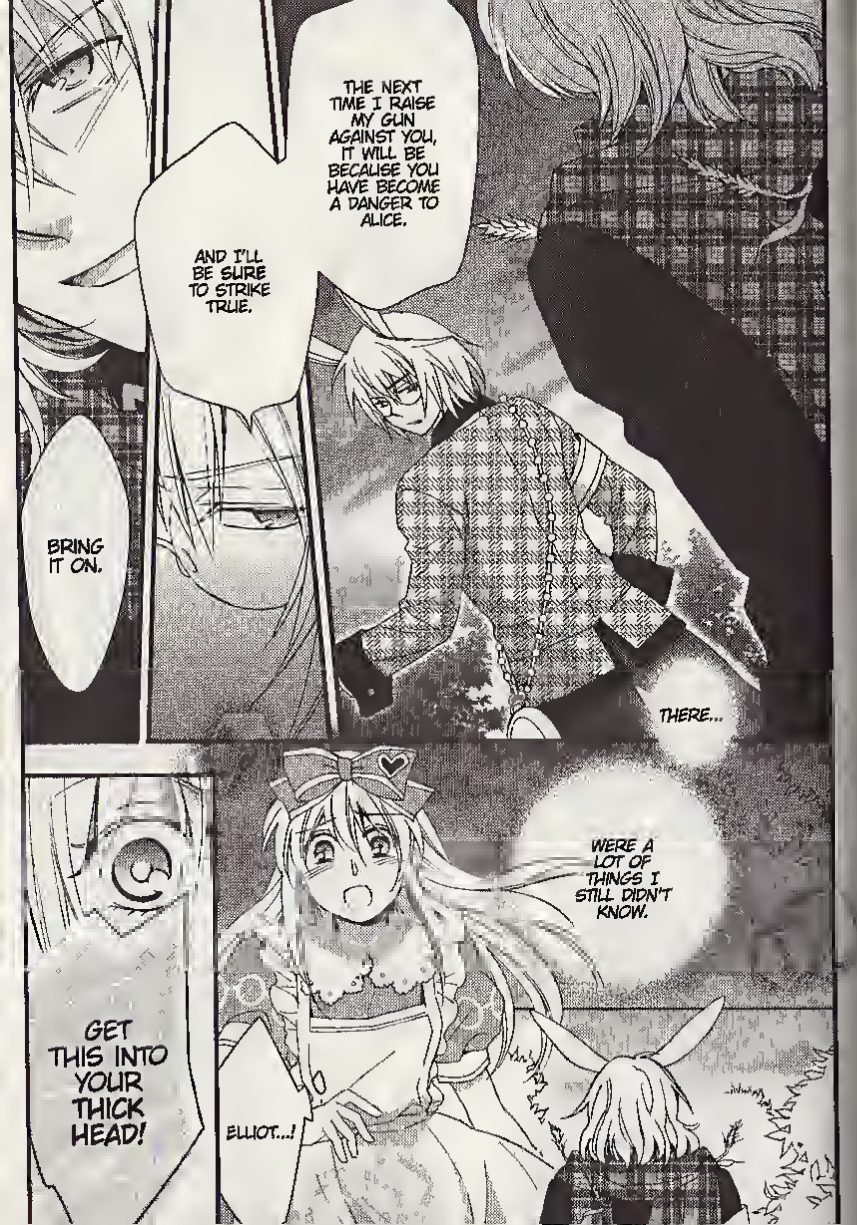
WIPE

FLINCH

OH MY...

BE... HAPPY.
I DISCOVERED A NEW WORLD.
AND THEN...
YOU BROUGHT ME HERE WITH YOUR OWN TWO HANDS.
ONE BRIGHT SUNDAY AFTERNOON...
PETER...
AND THEN...
SLOWLY BUT SURELY, MY HEART CHANGED.
THAT SCARES ME, TOO...
THANK YOU.


THEY'RE SO FULL OF GENUINE SADNESS.
HIS EYES...
THAT'S WHAT SCARES ME THE MOST.
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE.
WHEN I THINK OF YOU...
YOU FILL MY ENTIRE MIND.
HIS STRAIGHT-FORWARD AND HONEST GAZE.
I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY.
THAT'S ALL.


THE NEXT TIME I RAISE MY GUN AGAINST YOU, IT WILL BE BECAUSE YOU HAVE BECOME A DANGER TO ALICE.
AND I'LL BE SURE TO STRIKE TRUE.
BRING IT ON.
THERE...
WERE A LOT OF THINGS I STILL DIDN'T KNOW.
GET THIS INTO YOUR THICK HEAD!
ELLIOT...!

RUSTLE...
I WAS UNCERTAIN ABOUT MY NEW FEELINGS.
"SCARED"?
NO, I WAS INSECURE.
I HAVE NO NEED TO FIGHT YOU TODAY.
PETER.
WITHOUT YOU...

LIKE...

TRUE LOVE...

COME ON, HURRY!

KYAAH !!

ELLIOT!

WHERE ARE WE GOING NOW?!

THERE'S JUST ONE LAST THING!

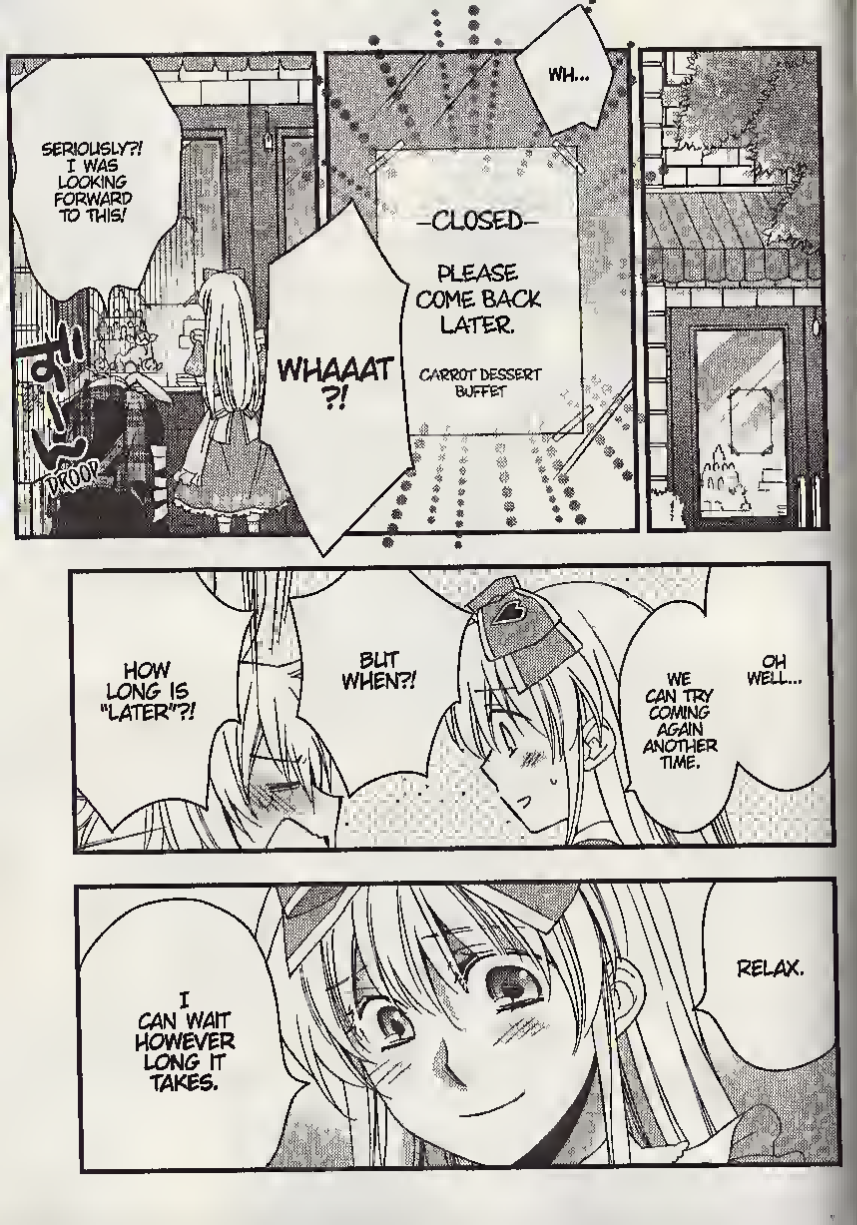
DON'T WORRY!

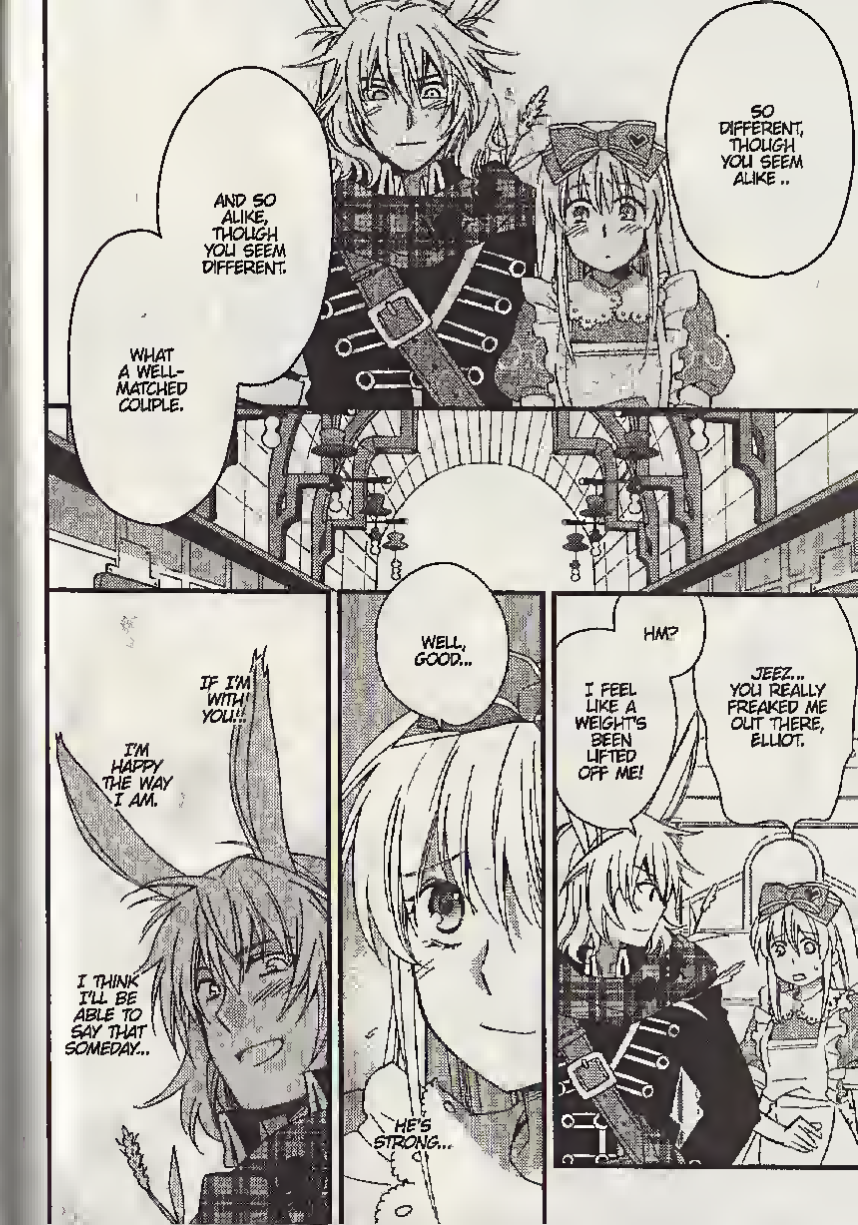
I'LL PROTECT ALICE!

I WON'T LET ANYONE ELSE LAY A FINGER ON HER!!

I AM ME!
I LOVE BLOOD.
AND I LOVE ALICE, TOO!
IT LOOKS LIKE...
I WAS MAKING MOUNTAINS OUT OF MOLEHILLS.
GOODNESS...!
BUT THAT'S NOT LIKE ME AT ALL.
THANK YOU FOR OPENING YOUR HEART TO ELLIOT.
WHEW... YOUNG LADY.
AND THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT.

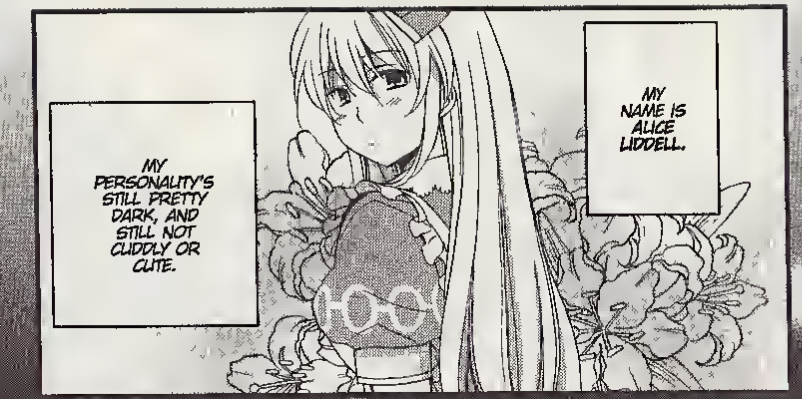
.....?!
?
ACTUALLY, TAKEN BY SURPRISE →
BLOOD, I...
BAM
BLOOD!!
LOVE YOU, BLOOD!!
I REAAAAALLY...
I SEE..
HEY, WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?!
LET ME DOWN!
I LOVE ALICE, TOO--- IN THAT SPECIAL WAY.
?!!
AND... WELL...
I SEE.

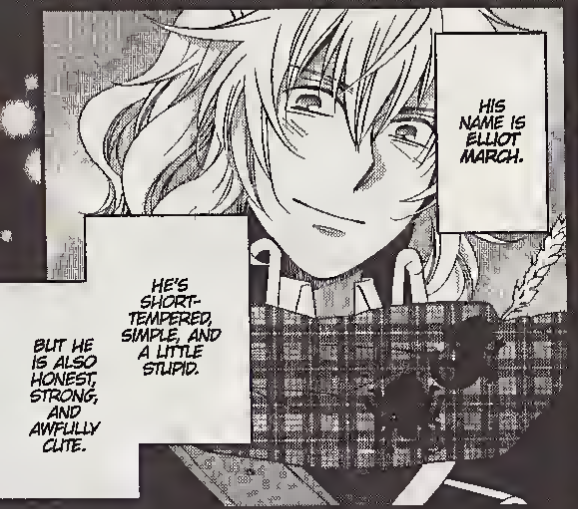

SERIOUSLY?! I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS!
DROOP
WHAAAT ?!
WH...
—CLOSED—
PLEASE COME BACK LATER.
CARROT DESSERT BUFFET
HOW LONG IS "LATER"?!
BUT WHEN?!
WE CAN TRY COMING AGAIN ANOTHER TIME.
OH WELL...
I CAN WAIT HOWEVER LONG IT TAKES.
RELAX.

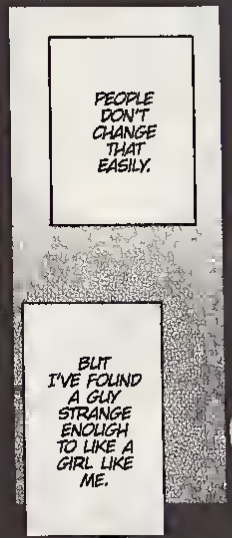

AND SO ALIKE, THOUGH YOU SEEM DIFFERENT.
SO DIFFERENT, THOUGH YOU SEEM ALIKE ..
WHAT A WELL-MATCHED COUPLE.
IF I'M WITH YOU!!
I'M HAPPY THE WAY I AM.
I THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO SAY THAT SOMEDAY...
WELL, GOOD...
HE'S STRONG...
HM?
I FEEL LIKE A WEIGHT'S BEEN LIFTED OFF ME!
JEEZ... YOU REALLY FREAKED ME OUT THERE, ELLIOT.

ALICE WILL BECOME A PART OF THIS WORLD...
AND, WITH TIME, SHE WILL SEEK OUT A NEW COLOR.
THAT BRIGHT WHITE AFTERNOON...
WILL FADE AWAY.
THAT'S RIGHT...
I CAN WAIT HOWEVER LONG IT TAKES.
BECAUSE I...
HAVE DECIDED TO STAY BESIDE YOU.
ALICE..
HURRY UP!

I WASN'T TRYING TO BE APPRECIATED.
IT'S RUDE TO BARGE INTO SOMEONE'S DREAM.
YOU'RE AN UNDERAP-PRECIATED MAN.
DON'T SAY THAT.
I'M JUST HERE BECAUSE I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
"SUNDAY AFTERNOON" HASN'T DISAPPEARED FROM HER HEART.
SHE STILL THINKS OF ME, NO MATTER WHAT SHAPE I TAKE.
BUT I BELIEVE...
IT IS SLOWLY FADING.
.....
YES...
FOR-GOTTEN.
YOU'RE SAYING... ALICE STILL HASN'T...


MY NAME IS ALICE LIDDELL.
MY PERSONALITY'S STILL PRETTY DARK, AND STILL NOT CUDDLY OR CUTE.


HIS NAME IS ELLIOT MARCH.
HE'S SHORT-TEMPERED, SIMPLE, AND A LITTLE STUPID.
BUT HE IS ALSO HONEST, STRONG, AND AWFULLY CUTE.


PEOPLE DON'T CHANGE THAT EASILY.
BUT I'VE FOUND A GUY STRANGE ENOUGH TO LIKE A GIRL LIKE ME.

WAIT.
ELLIOT.
PETER.
I'M NOT LIKE YOU.
"WHEN I THINK OF YOU..."
"YOU FILL MY ENTIRE MIND."
WHEN I THINK OF YOU...
I SEE A MANY-COLORED WORLD.

I WANT TO BE NEAR YOU.

EVEN IF IT WILL HURT ME IN THE END.

ME, WITH MY GOLDEN HAIR.

GREEN EYES. BLUE DRESS.

DO I SHINE BRIGHTLY IN YOUR EYES AS WELL?

YES.

I WANT TO SHARE IT WITH YOU IN WORDS.

THIS FEELING.

THIS TWISTED WONDER-LAND.

AMONG THE COLORFUL BLOSSOMS...

THE FIREFLIES DANCE ABOUT.

SO CUTE.

CUTE.

SUCH A COLORFUL MAN WHO POURS ALL HIS AFFECTION INTO ME.

CARROT-COLORED HAIR.

PURPLE STOLE.

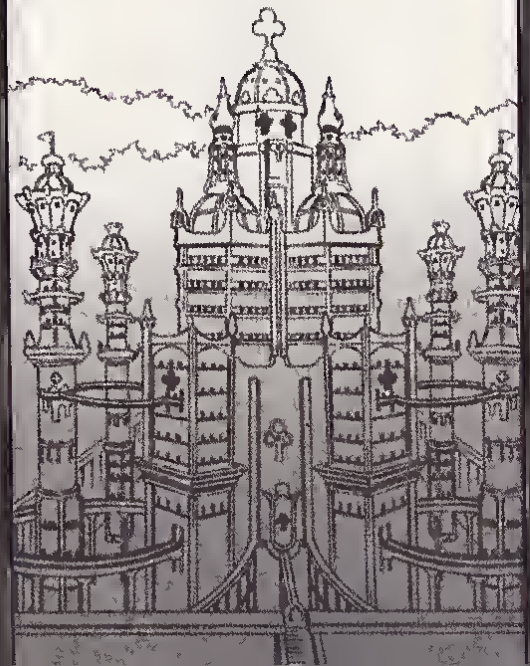
HIS RAINBOW OF DIFFERENT EXPRESSIONS.

Special Thanks

Shisui
Nagisa
Oumi
Wawa
Mirei
Saaya
Miyako
Harue

QuinRose

And you!

Thank you very much!

Soyogo Iwaki